THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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Per Annum in Advance
TOWN..... 11-8
MOFUSSIL..... 13-8

Summary of News.

Monday, 12th January.

A CURIOUS point connected with the law of Life Insurance has arisen in connection with the Gouffe murder case. Eyraud was insured for 2,000 francs. The company refused to receive the last instalment from his wife, on the ground that suicide annuls the policy, and that, by killing Gouffe, Eyraud had "wilfully" incurred capital punishment.

LORD CONNEMARA arrived at Singapore on the 17th ultimo. A Singapore paper hears that he intended to leave for Java, returning to Singapore within a month, and then to travel on to China and Japan, going home *via* America.

THE legal weight of the words "Received by cheque" when endorsed on a receipt was the subject of investigation recently before Mr. Commissioner Kerr in the City of London Court. A City firm had forwarded a receipt to a customer in this form; but it happened that the cheque was drawn by an agent, and it was returned dishonoured. Under these circumstances, the question was whether the firm had a right to sue their customer. The judge decided that they had no remedy but that of suing the agent on his dishonoured cheque. In vain it was urged that the goods had been supplied to the customer, and not to the agent. "If the plaintiffs," said Mr. Commissioner Kerr, "chose to accept a piece of paper, I cannot help it." The obvious moral is that those who accept a cheque drawn by an agent will do well to withhold the receipt till the cheque is cashed.

A letter has appeared from Sir W. V. Harcourt in which he denies the rumours current that there is [illegible] Gladstonian-Liberals, and [illegible] leaders of the [illegible] that is now before the Senate and that Senator Stewart's free coinage amendment will be substituted. The silvermen of the House of Representatives consider that the rejection of the Financial Bill by the House is not a certainty.

THE French Tariff Committee has finally decided to renounce all Customs treaties on the 1st of February.

FROM its note to the Government of India on the subject, it will be seen that the Cawnpore Chamber of Commerce admits the general reasonableness of the Factory Commission's report, but exception is taken to the recommendation that the legal age of children should be fixed up to fourteen, instead of twelve as at present, and that up to this age, when the shift system as in Cawnpore, is not in vogue, work should be limited to half time. The main objection urged by the Cawnpore Chamber is, that there could be no guarantee that children working half time in one mill would not go to another mill afterwards. Rather than take the responsibility of guarding against such an evasion of the law, the millowners declare they would dispense with juvenile labour altogether.

THE *Morning Post* thus writes about the recent Government order prohibiting its officers from attending the Congress meetings: "The official opposition to the Congress is well understood, but there are bounds within which it would be well to keep this opposition. The following, which we extract from the *Englishman*, is positively indecent:—"The Bengal Government having learnt that tickets of admission to the visitors' enclosure in the Congress pavilion have been sent to various Government officers residing in Calcutta, has issued a circular to all Secretaries and Heads of Departments subordinote to it, pointing out that under the orders of the Government of India, the presence of Government officials even as visitors at such meetings is not advisable, and that their taking part in the proceedings of any such meeting is absolutely prohibited." Anything more despotic it would be difficult to conceive. This is interfering with the liberty of the subject with a vengeance, and leads to the conclusion that the Government's position is becoming very weak indeed. Let not Britons talk about the despotism and tyranny of Russia after this." This is from an *English* and not a *Native* editor, and that makes a world of difference.

Tuesday, 13th January.

RAJA JHEET SINGH, of Jeypore, with 150 followers, arrived in Calcutta on Monday, and intends going on a pilgrimage to Puri.

THE man lately arrested in Catalonia as the supposed murderer of General Siliverstoff, has been identified as Padlewski, who escaped from Paris, and his identity is confirmed. The Spanish Government has officially notified the French Government of the arrest.

THE Canadian Attorney-General, with the approval of the Imperial Government, has aurhorized the owner of the *Sayward*, a seal fishing vessel, seized by the United States cruisers in Behring Straits, to apply to the United States Supreme Court for an injunction against the confiscation of the vessel, on the ground that Behring Straits are high seas. Further action will be suspended by the Canadian authorities for a fortnight, pending the decision of the Supreme Court. The case will raise before the Washington Supreme Court the whole question at issue between Great Britain and the United States regarding the Behring Straits fishery.

BARON Georges Eugene Haussmann, whose death is announced, will take his place in history as the rebuilder of Paris. Haussmann was born in Paris in March 1809, and was educated at the Conservatoire de Musique, and subsequently received a legal training. But his marked administrative capacities brought him under the notice of Louis Napoleon, who in 1853 appointed him Prefect of the Seine. The works which he undertook by way of developing the natural and architectural beauties of Paris completely changed the aspects of the capital. Public gardens, squares, markets, official buildings, bridges, hospitals, and asylums were all formed under his direction; and among his more important schemes may be mentioned the improvement of the Bois de Boulogne, the prolongation of the Rue de Rivoli, the construction of the Boulevard de Sebastopol, and the formation of about a score of additional boulevards in various quarters in the City. [illegible] his projects made Haussmann for a [illegible] he also stood high in [illegible] tions, however, [illegible] of favour at Court. His magnificent [illegible] could only be realised by an enormous expenditure of money; and as one loan succeeded another, public discontent began to be manifested. On the formation of the consitutional Ministry under Ollivier in 1870, the Baron was requested to resign his ædileship; and on refusing to do so, was dismissed by an imperial decree. After the fall of the Empire, he left France for a time; but ultimately returned.

SECRETARY CHI, who is to represent the Chinese Government on the Commission under the Sikkim-Tibet convention, is reported to be in a weak state of health, so his journey from Lhassa to Gnatong may be delayed for some time to come. He could scarcely, in any case, cross the passes into Sikkim just now as the snow lies ten feet deep.

MR. A. W. FANSHAWE will return to India and resume charge of the Postal Department in April, when the present officiating Director-General will proceed to Vienna as the representative of the Government of India at the Postal Conference. Some extremely important questions of postal finance are to be discussed at the Conference, where Mr. Kisch may be trusted to safeguard Indian interests with judgment and ability.

THE *Pioneer* says:—"We now hear that the Delhi-Kalka Railway will not be opened for traffic until March 1st, a date which will be quite early enough to get the trains in good working order before the rush to Simla begins. It is to be hoped that when the East Indian Railway have running powers to Umballa—for they will work the Delhi-Kalka line—a fast mail service will be arranged from Umballa to Lahore and beyond, in place of the present crawling train, by which a passenger has to waste over twenty-five hours in travelling from Ghaziabad to Lahore, a distance of only 335 miles."

THE Indian Postal authorities are utilising tbeir stock of four-and-a-half-anna envelopes, which have hitherto been in use for overland letters, by printing over the familiar yellow stamp the words:—"India Postage: two annas and six pies." When these envelopes are exhausted a new pattern will, it is to be hoped, be adopted of less transparent paper and slightly larger size.

Wednesday, 14th January.

THE project for running regular weekly special trains to leave Bombay five hours after the arrival of the P. and O. mail steamer, has again been revived. The Postal Department have, it is understood, made proposals to the several railways concerned, and a few weeks [illegible] their replies should be received. The weekly spec[illegible] would be run from Bombay to Allahabad with fe[illegible]pages on the way, and there be split up, one ha[illegible]e carriages being taken on to Calcutta and [illegible]ers through to the Punjab.

THE latest rumour circulated in the Punjab is that [illegible] Amir of Kabul "proposes to strengthen his position towards Peshwar by the erection of a fort with artillery near Lan[illegible], and a cantonment in its rear; the latter is to be located at Haftcha: and the fort at Kafi-Kila." The Lahore paper states, that as the new position would serve as a good basis of operations against refractory Mohmands on the north and Shinwaris on the south, its utility is quite evident enough to render any conjecture of distrust on the part of the Indian Government [illegible]y, but at the same time it points out that, in case of another Afgan war, a force advancing from Ali Masjid would find the fort an obstacle. But, says the *Pioneer*, experience has shown that Afgans fight best behind *Sungahs* and have little liking for being cooped up within four walls, with the chance of their retreat being cut off. But there is not the least chance of such a fort being built, for Kafir Kila happens to lie beyond the Afgan border line.

THE *Advocate of India* remarks that a perusal of the report of the proceedings before the Bengal Police Commission is calculated to call up memories of the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah. Those wicked cities of the plain were destroyed because they did not contain even five good men. According to the testimony of a native judicial officer of great experience (certainly meaning Babu Kanja Lal Bonnerjea) the Bengal Police is in as bad case as Sodom and Gomorrah; for he declares that the whole service is corrupt. Among the hundreds of policemen with whom he must have been brought into contact during the course of his long service, he has known only one honest man, a head-constable.

[illegible] Criminal Bench on Tuesday, presided [illegible]ices Macpherson and Gurudas [illegible]. BER[illegible] [illegible]umsden, an assistant in a over by Messrs. [illegible] for hearing. It is Banerjee, the case. of Mr. [illegible]e repairs to Assam tea garden, came on [illegible] said that when superintending [illegible] a building, he threw a brick at some coolies to attract their attention, and the brick struck one of them and caused an injury, which terminated fatally. Mr. Lumsden was charged under Section 352 of the Criminal Procedure Code, found guilty, and fined twenty-five rupees. The case was referred by the Sessions Judge to the High Court for revision, that officer very properly thinking the sentence inadequate. The case was argued and judgment reserved. On Tuesday Mr. Justice Macpherson announced that he and his colleague were not agreed as to the course to be pursued, though he could say thus much, that both thought that an offence had been committed and the amount of fine inflicted was inadequate. Mr. Justice Gurudas Banerjee was of opinion that the conviction and sentence should be set aside, and the case sent back for retrial. Mr. Justice Macpherson was in favor of accepting the conviction as it stood, and dealing with the case. From what transpired during the course of the arguments, it seemed probable that the retrial Mr. Justice Gurudas Banerjee would direct, would be under section 304 *a* of the Criminal Procedure Code. Each of the Judges has recorded an opinion in writing which has not been yet published, and the case will be referred to a third Judge by the Chief Justice, or sent for argument to another Bench.

THE *Law Gazette* has published some stringent strictures on what it conceives to be the great fault of modern Judges. Their Lordships are arraigned in good set terms for too often putting off their judgments, and for delivering them, when they are formed, with too great prolixity. A London paper says there is doubtless much charm in the cry for "brevity on the Bench," whatever that may mean.

IT is believed that President Harrison will veto free-coinage any how. Nevertheless the silver party are hobbying to obtain votes in the House of Representatives in favour of the Bill.

Thursday, 15th January

PROFESSOR Kirchoff of Halle, in an article, speaks of the anxiety with which scientific men looked for the meeting of the International Conference on degree measurement, for observations seemed to show that a decrease in latitude was in process, implying an alteration in the direction of the earth's axis. The fluctuation observed is probably due to a minute oscillation caused by some changes in the internal mass of the planet.

BABU CHUNILAL PANAHLAL, jeweller in Bombay, has placed a lakh of rupees at the disposal of the Governof that Presidency to found a sanitarium for the Jain community.

"I AM told," says *Atlas*, "it is quite settled that the Indian troopships will be turned over to the Indian Government by 1894, the principal reason being that the Admiralty cannot spare officers for them.

THE total number of deaths in the town registered during the week ending 10th January, was 256 against 309 and 289 in the two preceding weeks of last year by 2. There were 20 deaths from cholera, against 22 and 30 in the two preceding weeks;the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by 6. There were no deaths from small-pox during the week. There were 12 deaths from tetanus against 13 in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 76 and 41 respectively, against 108 and 39 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 308 per mille per annum, against 305 the mean of the last five years. The total number of deaths in the suburbs registered during the week ending 10th Jan. was 186, against 243 and 225 in the two preceding weeks, and lower than the corresponding week of last year by 10. There were 22 deaths from cholera, against 36 and 34 in the two preceding weeks; the number is higher than the average of the past quinquennium by 1. There were no deaths from tetanus against 18 in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 66 and 33 respectively, against 74 and 60 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 57·7 per mille per annum, against 75·7. the mean of the last five years. The general death-rate of the combined area is equal to 38·3.

THE *Englishman* writes:—"An advertisement which appeared originally in an Indian paper, has caused a considerable flutter in some parts of Europe. This is nothing less than an announcement in the usual phraseology that a 'Rajah of Bengal Province' and a 'respectable Native gentleman' wish to correspond with 'respectable European young ladies' with a view to matrimony. We cannot say whether the advertisement is genuine or not, but we have considerable doubts regarding it. Perhaps, the Police might be able to throw some light on the question. Genuine or not, however, it has been much discussed in European centres, and a respo[illegible] us directly from a lady [illegible] France. The can[illegible] states [illegible] some [illegible] actually reached [illegible] is at present residing in [illegible] sends her photograph, and [illegible] accomplishments. She evidently makes her offer with a very inadequate idea of the fate she is proposing for herself, and it was, therefore, only right that we should treat the advertisement as if it were a sham which, after all, is most probably the case."

LETTERS from Russia state that since the assassination of General Siliverstoff the police are apprehensive of fresh Nihilist outbreaks. Indiscriminate arrests are being effected in every town in the Empire. Persons of all ranks are being summoned to the police offices, and many have been imprisoned because they corresponded with people in France, or are known to read French books, or are related to exiles in Siberia. The Police seem to be multiplying arrests simply to levy blackmail on timid people. In St. Petersburg a new paroxysm of police activity has excited so many rumours of plots that the court is said to have become unnerved. The Czar goes to St. Petersburg as seldom as possible, and when he does go he remains but a short time, and always drives to Gatchina before nightfall.

THE Leprosy Commission is expected to arrive in Calcutta at the end of this month. In order to facilitate their investigations in connection with leprosy in India, the Leprosy Commission have drawn up sets of questions dealing with the etiology, propagation and diagonosis of the disease, as well as with sanitation in respect to asylums. The Government of India are circulating these questions to all Local Governments, with a view to their distribution among civil medical officers. If answered fully, these questions will materially assist the Commission in their labours; but, except in those districts in which there are regular asylums, medical officers have not many opportunities of studying this disease in its different aspects. There are seven of these asylums in the Punjab.

Friday, 16th January

A CORRESPONDENT of a contemporary states that the female candidates for the Middle Scholarship Examination in the Lower Provinces have been offered the option of substituting knitting, darning and embroidery and cutting of *pirans*, *pajamas* and *chapkans*, for geometry and mensuration, and botany, chemistry or natural philosophy.

GANESH PEIT, which is one of the important divisions of Poona, was, on Monday, the 12th instant, the scene of a great fire, when property estimated at something over two lakhs of rupees was destroyed.

THE Duke of Bedford is dead, and his remains will be cremated.

THE trouble with the Redskins in the United States is now supposed to be virtually at an end.

A parcel of Ceylon tea from Gallebonde Estate has been sold in Mincing Lane at eighty-seven shillings per pound, and resold at one hundred and ten shillings per pound.

ADVICE from Buenos Ayres states that a large force of rebels is collected at Entre Rios, whither the national troops have been sent to disperse them.

MR. R. A. GAMPLE is appointed, *sub protem*, to be Under-Secretary to the Government of India in the Finance and Commerce Department.

IT is believed that Colonel Conway-Gordon, Director-General of Railways, whose furlough expires next month, will take an extension of leave.

REPORTS have been received of a revolution in Chili where three men-of-war are stated to have revolted against the President's unconstitutional rule. No details have been received, as the Government controls the wires. The Chilian legations in Europe deny that there has been any street fighting, and the army is not affected by the revolution.

NEWS has been received from the Telegraphic Bureau at Burne that, owing to a revolution having broken out at Valparaiso, all telegraphic communication with Chili has been suspended. No particulars are to hand.

LATEST advices from Valparaiso state that the Chilliann Government is amassing troops. The Chillian Congress insists upon the President resigning. An outbreak is imminent.

A CONTEMPORARY says that Mr. Justice Rampini will become Judge of 24-Pergunnahs District, on Mr. Justice Beveridge's retirement this month. It is likely, he will be appointed permanently a High Court Judge, when Mr. Justice Tottenham retires next spring.

THE *Dainik* [illegible] Sir Andrew Scoble, that Susruta and Charaka have distinctly laid it down, as a general rule, that no girl menstruates before twelve years of age:—"These Ayurvedists belonged to the Upper Provinces of India, and had no particular knowledge of Bengal society. What they wrote in regard to this matter, applied more to the Upper Provinces than to Bengal. Besides, perhaps, Susruta was a Buddhist by religion, and his opinion cannot now be held valid in regard to the present state of Bengal Hindu society." We express no opinion at present on the Ayurvedic aspect of the question.

THE *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—One of the two great points that have been urged in favour of reform are that all thoughtful men are for it. Here is a list of the names of some gentlemen who are opposed to the reform, Maharaja Bahadur Sir Jotindra Mohun, Tagore K. C. S. I., Raja Rajendralala Mitra C. I. E., the Hon'ble Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter Kt., Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee, &c. &c., are dead against the reform. Sir T. Madhava Rao is against it. We would like to have a list of those who are for the reform. We would also like to know whether there are any one among the reformists who could be compared with the least in the above list in intelligence and culture?" The list given is suggestive, to use a well-known legal phrase, and not exhaustive.

A PRELIMINARY meeting was held at the residence of the late Maharajah Kamal Krishna Bahadur, and a Provisional Committee was formed on Wednesday last, for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken to protest against the Age of Consent Bill. The sum of one thousand rupees was raised on the spot, and put in the hands of the Committee for the purpose of meeting immediate requirements. Rajah Rajendra Narain Deb, Bahadur, was appointed Chairman; Maharaj-Kumar Nil Krishna and Pandit Bhuban Mohun Bidyaratna Mahamahapadhya, Vice-Presidents; Maharaj-Kumar Benoy Krishna Bahadur, Secretary; and Kumar Satyabadi Ghosal and Babu Pasupati Nath Basu, Treasurers.

Saturday, 17th January.

GOVERNMENT has decided that the correct spelling of the name of the Heir-Apparent of the Emperor of Russia is "Cesarewitch," and orders have been received that the title of His Imperial Highness should, in future, be always spelt in this way.

THE Cesarewitch and party left Lahore on the morning of the 15th, and after a short visit to Amritsar started southwards in the afternoon. His Imperial Highness arrived at Agra on Friday morning, and was received at the station by the Lieutenant-Governor.

THE Cesarewitch reaches Calcutta on the 26th instant. The details of the programme for his stay at the capital, which includes a visit to Darjeeling, will be shortly settled.

THE Amir of Bokhara, fearing an attempt on his kingdom by Prince Katta-Tura, an exile in India, entreated the Czar to take Bokhara under Russian authority. The Czar held that the moment was not propitious, since the establishment of a Russian Administration would entail an initial outlay of two hundred and fifty million roubles, apart from the maintenance, which would cost nine millions annually. Though the proposal of the Amir was declined, a convention was concluded stipulating that, in the event of the invasion of Bokhara by the Pretender, Katta-Turia, the Russian troops should at once occupy the capital, and the whole country should then be declared to have voluntarily placed itself under the authority of Russia. If it should become dangerous for the Amir to continue to reside at his capital he was assured of a large estate in the Crimea with a yearly pension of 100,000 roubles for life, with the rank of Aide-de-Camp to the Czar and General in the Russian Army.

WE regret to hear of the suspension of payment of the Uncovenanted Service Bank of the N. W. P., with liabilities of about ten lacs. The bank was started about twenty years ago, and was until within about four years a fairly flourishing concern, having, at one time, paid a dividend as large as twenty per cent. It had branches at Allahabad, Agra, Naini Tal, and Bareily. The management was in the hands of a European, but the Directors and shareholders are local Indian gentlemen. The assets approximate seventeen lacks, and the depositors are the only creditors. The assets are represented by house property which may realise as large a sum as is anticipated. A probability that a new company may be formed to take over the concer[illegible] mentioned. To heavy drawings by age[illegible] attributed.

[illegible] days; Babu Panchanan Dutt is a[illegible] him.

IT is reported that Mr. J. M. Maclean, M. P. for Oldham, will move the rejection of Mr. Bradlaugh's revised Indian Council Bill. This Bill, though admittedly a great improvement on the Bill submitted to the House of Commons by Mr. Bradlaugh last Session, has, it is stated, attracted no attention in England, the disaster to the left wing of the Liberal Party fully occupying the public mind. All these reports should be received with caution.

THE *Graphic* says:—"The Indian name 'Baboo' was originally a very honourable title, though now generally applied to Hindus in not an overrespectful sense. It is a compound Persian word—*Ba*, meaning 'with' and *boo*, 'fragrance' or 'scent,' so that in the early days of its origin *Baboo* signified a person rich enough to use scent, which was not so cheap then as now. Indeed, only the *Shahzadas* and *Nawabzadas* could afford scent, and thus 'Baboo' was equivalent to the English title of Duke.' What a fanciful derivation! This is cognate to the Reverend Mr. Long's laughable derivation of *ha-bara*, for Howrah. The endearing names of *abba* and *baba* will one day share the same fate in the hands of foreign linguists.

THE Maharajah of Nabha has given the munificent donation of one lakh and eleven thousand rupees to the Khalsa College Fund, with the promise of an additional gift if further appeal to him should be necessary. The amount subscribed by His Highness the Maharajah and State officials of Patiala reaches the handsome figure of two lakhs and eighty thousand rupees. It is evident (remarks the Lahore paper), from the enlightened action of the venerable Chief of Nabha and of the young Ruler of Patiala, that the desire to maintain and strengthen the traditions of the Khalsa is far from being extinct. 'There can be no doubt that the Sikhs, as a body, have determined to show by their efforts on behalf of the Khalsa College that the energy and determination which made them renowned in history still abide with them, and that, though ready as ever to wield the sword or grasp the plough, they will not be left behind in an age when education is the readiest passport to success."

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THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET.)

(SESSION 1890-91.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on *Tuesday*, the *20th Inst.*, at 7 P. M.

Subject : Radiant Heat.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Dutta, F. C. S., on *Thursday* the *22nd Inst.*, at 4 P. M.

Subject : Several Methods of Chemical Analysis.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on *Thursday* the *22nd Inst.*, at 7 P. M.

Subject; The Phenomena of Diffraction.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Saturday* the *24th Inst.*, from 4 to 5 P. M.

Subject ; Urine and Urinary Calculi.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
Honorary Secretary.

January 17th, 1891.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 1891.

THE AGE OF CONSENT.

II.

BOTH Sir Andrew Scoble and His Excellency the Viceroy said from their places in Council the other day that the proposed legislation does in no way touch the Hindu marriage law. We have already observed that the present Bill will seriously interfere with Hindu marriage institutions, and the rites of Hindu religion. We propose to discuss to-day to what extent this interference will be exercised. For this purpose it will be necessary to ascertain what is the undisputed text law on the subject. This text law will be found to be indicated in the Vedas, enunciated in the Sutras, prescribed in the Samhitas of the medieval Rishis, and affirmed and clearly explained in the recognised codes of the modern text-writers of the different schools of Hindu law.

[redacted]ir Romesh Chunder Mitter we [redacted]d out that the first *sacrament* [redacted]he marriage ceremony, is [redacted]. This is [redacted]g the Hindu religion. Now, let us see whether the remarks we made are supported by the Hindu Sastras.

Those who have any knowledge of the Vedas are aware that only *indications* of law are given in them, and that no systematic treatise of law is to be found in them. Hindus are naturally desirous to know what indication the Vedas give regarding the *garbhadhana* sacrament, and their curiosity can be easily satisfie In the Rigveda, the most ancient written recor of the Aryan family, and whose binding authorit is acknowledged and reverenced by all Hindus this sacrament is clearly marked. The *mantras* given there are employed in the performance of the sacrament ceremony, and form an essential portion of the present ritual, and it is quite clear that the term *garbhadhana* is taken from the words used in the mantras, mentioned above, beginning with *garbham dhehi* (cause impregnation.) The mantras we have referred to will be found in the last Book of the Rigveda, p. 606, Max Muller's Edition. Prayers are addressed to the Vedic gods and godesses—Vishnu, Tvashtri, Prajapati, Sinivali, Sarasvati and Asvinis—to cause impregnation, and their blessings invoked on the impregnated seed. Most of these deities are familiar to us, with the exception of *Sinivali,* who holds an equal rank with *Sarasvati,* and must have occupied a prominent place in the Vedic pantheon.

We next come to the Sutras of *Asvalayana,* known as the Rigvedic Manual. This sacrament is called there *garbha-lambhana.* (I. 13. 1). The commentator points out that it is so called because impregnation is obtained by it. He explains that the ceremony presented must be performed at the first flow, on the most auspicious day, and that connubial intercourse is absolutely needed on this occession. The Gobhila Sutras, whose authority is of paramount importance in questions of ceremonial law, lay down the same rule. (II. 5, 8). We will not multiply our quotations from the Sutras here, but come at once to the medieval sages, who have codified the Hindu law.

Gautama, the earliest medieval legislator, lays down the general rule that a girl should be given in marriage before she attains the age of puberty (XVIII, 21), that a house-holder shall approach his wife in the proper season (V. 31), and that the conceptual sacrament (*garbhadhana*), following marriage, is the first sacrament (VIII. 14) which is obligatory upon a Hindu house-holder to perform. This leaves no doubt that, according to Gautama at any rate, *garbhadhana* was an essential ceremony which could not be dispensed with. Terrible denunciations are pronounced by Baudhayana against the man who does not give his daughter in marriage before she reaches the age of puberty (IV. 1, 11.), and who does not approach her at the prescribed period. We are compelled to quote Baudhayan's words here, however disagreeable they may be to English ears :

"But the ancestors of that man who does not approach his wife who bathed after her temporary uncleanliness, though he dwells near her, lie during that month in the menstural excretions (of the wife). IV. 1. 18.

This thundering anathema against the person who violates the marital law, should quell the boldest spirit of revolt. Our reformers should bear this in mind, and as they professs to honor the precepts of the Hindu law they ought to give their most serious consideration to this passage from Baudhayana. In the passage extracted here no mention is made of the *garbhadhana* ceremony, for the very good reason that it is given in the chapter on *Penances,* where any reference to the sacrament discussed above would have been out of place.

Let us hear now what father Manu says regarding this sacrament :

"Know that he for whom the performance of the ceremonies beginning with the rite of impregnation *(nisheka* or *garbhadhana)* and ending with the funeral rite is prescribed, is entitled to these Institutes, but no other man whatsoever." (II. 16.)

Let us pause and ponder now what Manu says regarding the sacraments. The man who would not observe them is out of the pale of Hinduism—the law of Manu does not apply to [redacted] any [redacted] him. If there be such a per[redacted] other law he pleases, but the sacred law of the Hindus would not afford its protection to him. Here is a position of difficulty from which the boldest reformer would not be able to extricate himself. Let this text be read with those where marriage before puberty is prescribed (IX. 93), the religious duty regarding connubial intercourse is ordained, (III. .45) and where the culpable neglect of the husband to observe the marital law is condemned, (IX. 4) and then our legislators would be satisfied what heavy responsibility they incur in forcing an Act of the Legislature upon the Hindu nation which is antagonistic to their own law on the subject.

The law of Yajnavalkya (I. 10,11, 79) is equally emphatic, and the law of Vishnu leaves not a shadow of doubt as to what should be the duty of a Hindu on the occasion in question.

Vishnu says (XXVII. 1) : "The *nisheka-karman,* or ceremony of impregnation, must be performed when the season fit for procreating children distinctly appears (for the first time)."

The well-known commentator Nanda Pandita, in his celebrated commentary, Vaijayanti, explains that "the word *garbha* (used in the text) means *ritu, i. e.,* the time favorable for procreation, following immediately upon the menstrual evacuation, and the above ceremony should be performed once only", in order to consecrate the mother once for all. Here the time for the performance for the ceremony is clearly laid down, and no captious criticism on the point is possible.

Commencing from the Rigveda, we have come down to Vishnu to point out what the real law on the question is admitted to be. The subsequent legislators have simply followed their predecessors, and reaffirmed the law in the strongest terms. We shall be only repeating the law, word per word, if we attempt to quote all the other authorities on the subject. 3

It now remains for us to see what has been laid down as the 'sanction' of the law, and what is the penalty which is ordained for those who violate the law. We turn to Parasara, the legislator of the Kali age, and we see at once what is prescribed to be the terrible penalty for the persons who transgress the law :

" The woman, who, bathing after her monthly flow, does not approach her husband, goes to hell after death, and becomes a widow again and again.

"The man, who, being near, does not approach his wife, when she has bathed after her course, is guilty of the most terrible embryo-murder. There is no doubt on this point" (Ch. IV.) We would refer also to the penalty, which is to the same effect, referred to by Raghunandana, in his *Sanskara Tattva.*

We have seen what is the Vedic law on the subject, and we have shown what is the law prescribed by medieval sages, and penalty for the violation of the law sanctioned by them. We referred also in our last to the ritual law enjoined by Raghunandana, the acknowledged authority on ceremonial law in Bengal. Raghunandana is not singular with regard to the *garbhadhana* ceremony. Bhavadeva also confirmed and explained the ordinances of the medieval sages on the same subject, before Raghunandana. We would refer all those who have any doubts on the question to the Samvedic Manual of Bhavadeva, who treats of the *garbhadhana* ceremony. If more authorities are wanted, we would ask th inquirers to study the manuals of Pasupati Kalesi, both of which are honored and fo in Bengal.

CONTEMPORARY OPI[redacted]

PEOPLE amenable [redacted]on wil[redacted] little difficulty in perceivin[redacted] position taken up by Governmen[redacted] supporters in regard to the [redacted] Consent Bill is utterly unten[redacted]ustration of this we desire to qu[redacted] from our contemporary of the [redacted] which with creditable frankness[redacted]orary admits, in common with ma[redacted] he has been grievously misled as [redacted]g no religious sanction to the claim of [redacted]pponents to the Bill. Says our conte[redacted]

An importan[redacted]he Hindus protests against [redacted] to compel them to defer [redacted]riage with their wives beyond the Leg[redacted]ly, they base this pro- to consummatio[redacted] requires them that period. Rightly o[redacted] its test on the ground that their religio[redacted] to consummate their marriage, immediately afte[redacted] attainment, and they maintain that, inasmuch as the condition in question is, in many cases attained before the age of 12, the proposal to fix the age of consent at 12 unconditionally is a proposal to do what would often amount to such compulsion. From his speech in Council it does not appear at all certain that Sir Andrew Scoble himself clearly understood the nature of the question he was required to dispose of in order to establish the contention that the Bill involved no interference with religion. For, while he represents the sole object of the Government as being to prevent the consummation of marriage before the attainment of puberty, he speaks of accomplishing this object by fixing an approximate age, based on the average period at which that condition is attained, as though the principle being once accepted, a few months here or there would, from a religious point of view, be immaterial. As we have said before the view that a Hindu is required by the *Sastras* to consummate his marriage within a certain time after the first attainment of puberty by his wife, may be right, or it may be wrong. But it is not disputed that that view is actually entertained by a considerable section of the Hindu community. This being the position it is perfectly clear that the Government, unless it is prepared to do what it repudiates all intention of doing, and accept the *onus* of interfering with the religion of its subjects, not for the sake of accomplishing its declared object of preventing consummation before puberty, but for the sake of accomplishing it in a particular way, involving in certain cases, consequences not comprised in its declared object then it must do one of two things : Either it must show clearly, by a preponderance of authoritative evidence that the Hindu *Sastras* do not require a husband to consummate his marriage on his wife's attaining the condition in question; or it must amend its proposal by introducing into it a saving clause with respect to wives who attain that condition before the age of 12.

Well said, boldly said and frankly said too. We should like to know how Government can reasonably take any other view when Hindu opinion has been most unequivocally pronounced. Let it do what it likes with others; Hindus they must leave alone.

The *Statesman* also suggests that when theconcensus of Hindu opinion is so strong against the Bill there may well be a proviso that the amendment will not apply to persons married according to Hindu rites. This no doubt would be a reasonable and acceptable amendment of the Bill so far as we Hindus are concerned, but we doubt whether such a provision could have a place in the Penal Code. Some would have the age limit placed at the first indication of puberty. But this we could not possibly expect, because the elements of Medical Examination and Police interference would still reign supreme. But it is too early yet in the day to speak of reason perhaps, when the reformers are bent upon having the whole hog or nothing at all. Talk of the unprotected minority in connection with the Reform of Councils! Was the Hindu majority ever so unprotected as it is with Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter all by himself to look after its interests and charged with saving them from utter perdition and ruin?

The *Englishman*, like most of his compatriots, understands Hindu caste complexities much better than the Hindus themselves. With re- ble assurance and gravity, therefore, our rary tells his readers that the "solitary inst the Age of Consent Bill on Friday mes from a person "whose caste *le order*." Sir Romesh Chunder *ulacharya* might have given him a be m the ladder if he had not disappointed progressio who of late were confidently counting bi their own. Accurate as the article is in , it is not unfair in all respects, as the ract will show :—

"It must be admitt easure which Sir Andrew Scoble laid be lative Council on Friday, for raising the ag from ten to twelve both for married and u en, came upon the public generally as s the nature of a surprise. That the projecte kely to meet with opposition even in thes cied grievances and factional discussion, mu considerable extent be ascribed to the abru in which the Bill has been brought forwa as there apparently any special reason fo His Excellency the Viceroy tell ment of India had decide ately. long ago as July la the Govern- movem ake this subject up as and therefore in anticipation of the ent that has been set on foot in England. Unfortunately Government kept its decision a profound secret, and it was only known a few days before the meeting of the Legislative Council that any such measure was in contemplation. This is no doubt a matter of policy and expediency quite apart from the question at issue. But in dealing with a subject which may be supposed to impinge, although ever so slightly, upon the religious question, Government cannot proceed too warily, and in the present instance it was in a position to secure such a manifestation of opinion on the part of both classes and masses as would have forestalled any possibility of opposition. It seems to us to be all-important that Government should keep touch with the various classes for whom it is legislating, and should not commit itself to the passing of a measure before having ascertained definitely the strength of the prevailing opinions for and against it. It is evident that the mischievous tendency in the present case arises from the isolated life to which Government condemns itself during its eight months' residence out of India. Had its officers and advisers not been buried in the seclusion of Simla, it is impossible to suppose that it could have rushed into Council with an important measure touching upon Native marriage law before it had strengthened its hands to the utmost,—gathering together every influential expression of opinion, preparing the public mind, correcting prejudice and misconception, and meeting opposition before it reached the very threshold of the Council Chamber. Sir William Hunter in London, with correspondents in India, is as likely to represent a popular question faithfully in the *Times*, as is Sir Andrew Scoble, living in Simla, and making no apparent use of his contiguity to the people in the plains. We are more than doubtful of the wisdom of springing such a measure upon the country.

This very fairly represents the Hindu complaint about the mode of introducing the Bill.

The *Civil and Military Gazette* says :

"The measure will give terrible scope for private malice to bring humiliation and disgrace upon families."

The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* makes a pertinent enquiry which Sir A. Scoble will probably answer for him. What is to become of the girl wife when the felon husband is sent to jail for ten years or to the *Kalapani* for life? Neither her parents nor her husband's relatives will have aught to do with her when she has been eternally ruined by a medical examination of her person and exposure in a Court of law. Will the State be her protector or will she seek protection in the Bazar?

The *Tribune* of Lahore says :

"But what guarantee is there that advantage will not be taken of the measure for the satisfaction of revenge? And what greater calamity can befall an Indian than to be exposed in such a manner in a Court of Law? Eventually the charges may be quashed, but how will the disgrace of being hauled up before a Magistrate on such a loathsome charge be wiped off? Now, the measure cannot prevent the kind of crime it is intended to suppress. It will on the contrary be the means of ruining many innocent people. It will give further power of oppression to the Police, though not to the extent it would have been the case if the offence had been made a cognizable one. Then, it will create wide-spread discontent and resentment among the Hindu population, for it will be regarded as mischievous meddling with their social customs."

It is beyond the possibility of doubt that the concensus of orthodox Hindu opinion is positively and unmistakably against the introduction of this thin end of the wedge. The Viceroy himself has had the frankness to tell us that more drastic measures are in store at the instance of an influential English Committee receiving its inspiration from mischief-making busy-bodies anxious to create a name and fame of some sort for themselves. What custom is there on the face of the world—and we do not except even enlightened customs of the civilized West, though we do not care to specialize or characterise any in particular—which if systematically inveighed against would not appear a hundredfold darker in color than the darkest of Hindu customs, marital or otherwise? And with Hindus in power their condemnation would perhaps be as pronounced. Each custom has, however, a particular bearing social structure to which wing due regard to economic, climatic and oral laws. Old fashioned Hindus place a value upon female chastity at which modern civilization, with its courtships and balls, and picnics and waltzing would laugh, and the scorn and contempt would know no bounds when old fashion went a step further and put a positive discount on unchastity even in imagination. We do not know what it may be with others, but it is a teaching of the Sastras borne out by every day experience and borne out by medical testimony that a certain physical condition in the female, specially at its first appearance, is accompanied by a strong desire, the satisfaction of which the Hindu legislator wisely enjoins, to avert suffering and dispense with what may be termed un chastity of the mind. For otherwise the damsel would have her thoughts diverted into an unhealthy channel even which is sufficient to ensure eternal perdition. So elaborate are the precautions adopted in this connection that during the first four days of the indication of this condition no mortal man, not even the husband, is to set his face upon the girl, and the same strictness with certain relaxations is observed throughout the child-bearing age on all subsequent occasions. Is this conceivable to the English mind; and if not, let it not disturb our marital laws. With the complex joint family system consisting of dependants and relations outside the prohibited degrees, the girl would be in an absolutely unprotected condition from the Hindu point of view, when in the husband it would be lawless to exercise his marital rights. Can our legislators, or those that support them, gainsay the living physical fact that our girls do bear children, and healthy children too, at and before twelve; and if they cannot, is it not sheer boldness in them to ignore probabilities at the very idea of which Hindu society quakes and trembles. Some of the 'reformers' who marry their girls at fourtee n complain, we are told, that the Bill does not go far enough, as their unmarried girls will *still* be unprotected for two years. We wonder how they managed with the non-protection of four years hitherto. Their apprehension, which may be very just, only proves our case.

MR. PINCOTT AT CLAPHAM.

ALTHOUGH Mr. Frederick Pincott has never been in India he takes a deep interest in the welfare of its people, and never loses any opportunity to promote it to the best of his power. By careful study he has made himself thoroughly acquainted with the real state of things existing in this country. He does not, like the average Englishman, accept official reports on the condition of India for gospel truth. He is a staunch Conservative; nevertheless, he deeply sympathises with the political aspirations of the educated classes in India, and is a warm supporter of the National Congress movement. Mr. Pincott recently delivered an address to the Conservatives of Clapham. The main object of that address was to convince the Conservatives that they, as a party, are committing a grave tactical mistake in neglecting to place themselves in rank with the reforming party in India. He pointed out that there is nothing in Conservatism antagonistic to prudent reforms, and then went to say: "The whole constitution of England, and all the changes or reforms which have raised us from barbarism to the highest pinnacle of civilisation, have been effected under Conservative influences. It is simply notorious that what have been called Whig, Liberal and Radical ideas had no existence until recent t mes; and are only now striving to make good a claim to dominate the affairs of the nation. They are theories which may or may not prove workable; but Toryism is experience, and can point to accomplished results. We have, therefore, only to compare the England of the Norman Conquest with the England of the time of Queen Anne to see that constant and steady reform is compatible with even old ideas of Toryism."

This being the case, there is ever why the Conservative should keep themsel loof part in to the Tor Proclamation of 1858, which is justly regarded by our countrymen as their Magna Charta. Mr. Pincott pertinently observed that the practicability and desirability of the reform proposed are the only questions which deserve attention and which exercise the thoughts of modern Conservatives. He then showed that refrom in the Government of India is necessary and that it is also practicable and must shortly take place. He spoke in very high terms of the natural intelligence of the Indian people and explained to his hearers the enormous changes which have occured in the mental condition of India during the last thirty years. He observed :—"While this has been going on, however, the machinery of Government has remained stationary. The Government of the period of acquisition was necessarily a pure despotism, administered by a few European officials having absolute power, whose scattered and unprotected condition rendered the swift-hand of military authority necessary to compel obedience. After the Mutiny the same machinery was maintained, supplemented by a semblance of concession manifested by the nomination of natives to seats in the councils, and the appointment of Natives to subordinate posts in the public service. In fact, such appointments of course existed previously, but after the Mutiny certain rights were recognised. The European official, however, remained and still remains the wielder of what may not unfairly be described as unchecked power, for his influence has power over the law itself, and he makes and breaks law at pleasure. The country is, therefore, now governed in as absolute and despotic a manner as Russia, or any other pure despotism. The official is in the nature of a sovereign in his district; and the life, liberty and property of every inhabitant, from prince to beggar, are practically at his mercy. It must

be obvious that despotism cannot be maintained, in the face of the growing enlightenment of India, and, therefore, I say, reform is absolutely unavoidable." This must be the opinion of every intelligent and unprejudiced Englishman who takes the trouble to make himself acquainted with the real condition of India. Mr. Pincott drew the attention of his hearers to the Police system of India, which he justly described as a scandal to civilisation, as it is notorious that the police systematically resort to torture to extract confessions and fabricate evidence. He spoke nothing but the truth when he said that the police of India constitute an engine of oppression and extortion of the cruellest kind, and that bribery, perjury, and every form of corruption are openly practised under the very noses of the European District and Assistant Superintendents. Mr. Pincott also told his hearers that as matters now stand, no European is ever hanged for the murder of an Indian. He pointed out that thirteen cases of murdering Indians by Europeans have occurred within the last three years, and six more murders of Natives were committed in 1890. Of the thirteen cases previously mentioned, three months' imprisonment was awarded in two cases, and only one month in one case, while there was no punishment whatever in the remaining ten cases. Mr. Pincott also referred to the Crawford case and justly remarked that partiality in the mal-administration of justice could surely furnish no worse instance than this, in which one and the same act was, by a Court, declared to be borrowing on the part of the man who received the money and bribery on the part of the man who gave it.

Mr. Pincott fully acknowledged the great and good work done in India by the English race, and he pointed out that Indians also are fully sensible of the great benefits which their country has derived from the British rule. He emphatically stated that an Indian who cherished the slightest wish to unsettle the power of the English in India would be a phenomenon. But it is idle to conceal the fact that there are many causes at work which are leading to discontent, not with England, or the English, but with official tyranny. Mr. Pincott remarked: —"It must be evident to ev[illegible] this room that men possessing the [illegible]ellectual capacity and now com[illegible]s will not, for any length of [illegible]d as inferior [illegible] despotic sovereign, it is manifestly im[illegible]e to maintain despotism in India under the government of free England, after the people of the country have become fully aware of their rights as free men, and have been taught that all the subjects of our beloved Sovereign are entitled to equal rights before the law, and to personal and political freedom. These facts and considerations make it clear that reform in India is absolutely necessary, and must speedily take place, for, as many of you may be aware, the thoughtful men of India have, during the last few years, organised a movement for the purpose of demanding some concessions that may free them from the worst evils under which they now suffer. The movement of which I speak has been called the Indian National Congress, and it consists of members of every creed and race in the country, sent from all parts of India, to discuss and pass resolutions calling on the Indian Government to confer some of the rights of freedom on the sons of the soil. It is to our ideas simply monstrous that a revenue of eighty millions sterling should be raised at the mere dictum of half-a-dozen officials from two hundred millions of people not one of whom has the least voice in the raising or distribution of the taxes. This is done among a people who are peaceable, faithful and loyal, and who count among their numbers tens of thousands of scholars and gentlemen mentally and morally the equals of those among our own people. Nor does this political incapicity affect Indians alone; for if you and I were to go to India we should instantly be reduced to a state of political slavery." All sensible and right-minded Englishmen will agree with Mr. Pincott that justice, good policy, and even expediency loudly demand the introduction of certain reforms in the existing system of Indian administration. He rightly holds that the party in England which carries the first reforms in India will retain the confidence of the people of England and earn the heartfelt gratitude of the teeming millions of this country. He said: "There is absolutely nothing of a party character in the question of justice for India. It is the abstention of Conservatives, and nothing else, which will give a party character to the movement." These weighty words coming as they do from a staunch Conservative like Mr. Pincott should receive the most careful and attentive consideration of the leaders of his party. No greater misfortune could befall this country than that its affairs should be made the sport of party politics in England.

THE MAHOMEDAN EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

THE Mahomedan Educational Conference assembled at Allahabad on the 28th ultimo under the presidency of Sirdar Mahomed Hyat Khan, and its proceedings were conducted in Urdu. We are told that several ladies were on the platform and among the gentlemen present there only two names are given. The President, in opening the proceedings, said that the number of members this time far exceeded those of all former Conferences put together; but as the actual figures have not been given, these vague and general statements cannot carry any weight with the impartial public. The President read a paper which explained that the Conference had nothing to do with political or religious matters, and that it would deal with the following points:—(1) to find out the means and ways for extending European science and literature among the Mahomedans and to promote their progress in that respect; (2) to enquire into the circumstances of education imparted to the Mahomedans in the schools established by their co-religionists, and so far as possible to help in completing that education. The President further pointed out that the Mahomedans were in want of help from the Governments of all the Provinces; and that the Government of the Punjab had given assistance in furnishing stipends to the Mahomedan students; and that the Mahomedans specially must help their brothers in improving their condition. A letter of sympathy with the objects [illegible] Conference received from Mr. Justice [illegible] High Court was then [illegible] quote the read. [illegible] following passage:—"It is a hopeful sign for the future of the work in which you [Sir Ahmed Khan] take so keen an interest that the barriers of false pride and narrow prejudice behind which, until more recent times, too many Mahomedan gentlemen of birth and position took an attitude of cold hostility to the educational advantages other are fast being broken down, and it is a matter for congratulation to those who wish our Mahomedan fellow-subjects to take proper place and share in all departments of the State and in the professions, to see that the lesson is being learnt, which every man and all men in these days of progress must sooner or later learn, that as pride is so fatuous and that which declines instruction from the experience and wisdom of others, no prejudice so fatal as that which accepts dogma as the height of intellectual experience; I know I run no risk of being misunderstood when I say this either by the members of the Conference or yourself; most of them, and certainly you, know me well enough that I am actuated by no sectarian predilections and will credit me with a sincere interest in the important work upon which you and they are engaged." We hope very earnestly that our Mahomedan fellow-subjects will steadily bear in mind the valuable advice which Mr. Straight has given to them. Had not false pride and narrow prejudice prevented them from availing themselves of the educational advantages placed within the reach of all classes of Her Majesty's Indian subjects, they would not have been left behind in the race of life. For their present backward and deplorable condition they have only themselves to thank.

Sir Ahmed Khan, as General Secretary of the Conference, submitted his report for the past year. The report merely stated that effect had been given for the first resolution of the conference of 1889 and the Secretary regretted that a complete report could not be given with regard to the other resolutions. Thereupon Mr. Moulvi Shibb pertinently observed that the position of the Mahomedans would have been much improved had the resolutions of the previous Conference been all acted upon. The learned Moulvi spoke nothing but the truth when he said that it was no easy task to promote education among the Mahomedans and that half a century at least would be required for their advancement. The next speaker, Mr. Siraj-ud-din, took a sanguine view of the progress of the Mahomedans as a nation. Mr. Hassan Ali, the well-known Moslem missionary of Patna, who had recently come back from his preaching tour in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies observed that the practical interest taken by the students who had opened tea-shops for raising money for supporting their fellow-students, was a hopeful sign. We think, however, that Mahomedan students would do more good to themselves and their community by minding their books than by wasting their valuable time by the establishment of tea-shops. It is not surprising that after what fell from the lips of the missionary, one of the students of the Aligarh College should have addressed the Conference and solicited support for the tea-shops. Mr. Moulvi Hashmatulla Khan, of the North-West Statutory Service, who spoke next, assured his co-religionists that the object of the Conference would be gained one day or other. Sir Ahmed Khan proposed the first resolution that the name of the Congress be now altered from "Educational Congress" to "Educational Conference." As the mover's speech in support of the resolution has not been published, we do not know what considerations influenced him in suggesting the alteration of name. Probably the worthy Syed hates the word "Congress" so much that he cannot brook the idea of its being uttered by himself or any one of his co-religionists. Of course, the resolution proposed by him was agreed to unanimously. At the afternoon sitting of the Conference Sir Ahmed read a paper in the Persian language in which he discussed its claims to be considered a classical language. He rightly condemned the proposal to exclude Persian from the Allahabad University Course. He had also the good sense to admit that Persian is an easy language and *cannot be compared* [illegible]krit in difficulty; hence in University [illegible] injustice for those persons [illegible] those who take with San[illegible] examinations there is [illegible] who take Sanskrit compared with [illegible] Persian. Sir Ahmed proposed a reso[illegible] protesting against the exclusion of Sanskrit from the Allahabad University Course, and it was passed. A resolution that all letters patent of the Mahomedan rulers should be collected in Persian and printed was also unanimously agreed to. We are, however, at a loss to understand what has this matter to do with the progress of Mahomedan education. The same remark applies to an address by Professor Arnold of Aligarh College on "The Progress of Mahomedan Civilization with special reference to China."

At the sitting of the Conference on the 29th ultimo the report of the Madrassa, established in Garden Reach by the ex-King of Oudh on the occasion of the late Jubilee, was read. It is a matter of regret that, owing to the death of His Majesty the Madrassa has been reduced to a very unsatisfactory condition. There was then an interesting discussion on the important question of Technical education. Sir Ahmed Khan read a paper on the subject, and he was followed by Mr Theodore Beck who made some very sensible observations. Mr. Beck justly remarked that he had not been able to find a clear and distinct explanation of the meaning of technical education. He admitted fully the importance to the Mahomedan community of the encouragement of trade and commerce and he pointed out that that community had sunk because they had no trade or commerce in their hands. We should here very much like to ask Sir Ahmed and Mr. Beck whether it is the fault of the Hindus or of the Government that the Mahomedans have no trade or

commerce in their hands. But let that pass. Mr. Beck took up an unassailable position when he said that technical education should not in any way supplant or interfere with University education. He remarked:—"The aim of education was the study of learning and the improvement of the human mind, and thus the aim which the Universities of India had to put before themselves was the advancement of the thoughts of the people of India, the advancement of their mental life, and he could not for one moment admit that the encouragement of technical education should be allowed to interfere with or stand in the way of the higher or more important aim.* * * * Technical education could not be given in the schools, for the teachers were as ignorant as the pupils; nor were the professors in the colleges more capable; and supposing they had teachers and schools they would probably turn out too large a supply for a particular industry. The idea that apparently existed that our schools and University Colleges could be utilised for technical education was utterly absurd, and the serious thing was that they were asked to do this instead of the work they were intended to do." A resolution that technical education should not be introduced into the Universities was then put to the meeting and unanimously agreed to. Several resolutions relating to elementary education were then proposed and passed. On the motion of Mr. Justice Mahmud Syed Ali Belgrami and Syed Igbal Ali of Hyderabad were requested to translate into Urdu certain Sanskrit and Bhakka works by Mahomedan authors. Nawab Mohsin-ul-Mulk of Hyderabad, better known as Moulvi Mehdi Ali, then delivered his lecture on "The origin, growth and all of Political, Social and Religious Mahomedanism and its future prospect." The lecturer, who made political capital out of his subject as much as he possibly could, concluded by appealing to Mahomedans to contribute to the best of their power towards the cost of educating their co-religionists. Sir Ahmed then made a statement as to the financial condition of the Conference but no information on this head is vouchsafed to the public.

Latest News and Notes.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy was slightly indisposed towards the beginning of the week, but is now much better, we are pl[redacted] hear.

SIR C[redacted] to

[redacted]harles Elliott returned to Calcutta on Thursday afternoon, that is to say a day earlier than was arranged. Sir Charles is a thorough man of business and would not let the grass grow under his feet while in the very threshold of office. His subordinates will please understand that not a day more is to be spent on holiday-making than can be helped.

AN imperative order has been issued, we understand, by Sir Alfred Croft, forbidding the Professors of Sanskrit College to attend, even as spectators, meetings that may be held to protest against the Age of Consent Bill. There cannot be a more tyrannical exercise of authority than this. Will Sir Alfred next prevent the Pandits from performing the rites of their own religion? Does he think that he will in this way stop a free expression of opinion of our Pandits? If this be his opinion all we can say is that he is egregiously mistaken. The Pandits are the guardians of the Hindu religion, and the natural expositors of the precepts of our Sastras. If they are not allowed to perform the religious duty entrusted to them, they will have to abdicate the rights they enjoy as priests. The consequences will be very serious, both to themselves and to the people who are under their religious charge. The question now arises: will Government servants be treated as slaves, who are bound, under penalty of dismissal, to follow the behests of their masters, even if those behests are directed against their own religious law? We do not care to answer this question, but would request Sir Alfred Croft to reconsider his order. Ill-feeling has already been created, and we wish it should not spread. Such an order will only serve to throw discredit upon the Government, and motives will be freely attributed where for a fact none exists.

THERE seems to be no truth in the rumour that the Viceroy will go to Ootkamund next summer. His Excellency may and does as a matter of fact, we believe, dislike Simla, but red-tape will drag him there all the same. His Excellency stays down in the plains as long as possible and does not leave the Presidency, we hear, till late in April. This healthy change in the temperament of our rulers is to be heartily welcomed. Sir Steuart Bayley spent as little time in Darjeeling as possible and it is to be hoped that Sir Charles Elliott with his love of business will do the same thing.

A CONVOCATION of the Calcutta University for conferring degrees will be held at the Senate House, on Saturday next, at 3 P. M. His Excellency the Chancellor will preside.

BY the permission of the Lieutenant-Governor and Lady Elliott, the annual meeting of the Bengal Branch of the National Indian Association will take place at Belvedere, on Tuesday, the 3rd Feb., at 5 P. M. Sir Charles Elliott has consented to be President and Lady Elliott to be a Vice-President, of the Bengal Branch.

HIS Excellency the Chancellor has appointed the following gentlemen to be Fellows of the University of Calcutta:—

H. H. Risley, Esq. B. A., The Rev. J. Morrison, M.A., B.D., Babu Sambhu Chandra Mookerjee, Surgeon-Major G. F. P. McConnell, M. D., Rai Gunabhi Ram Barua, Bahadoor, The Rev. S. B. Taylor, M. A., Babu Jogendra Chandra Ghose, M.A., B.L., and Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, M.A., B.L.

The last two gentlemen are vakils of the High Court and nominees of the graduates of the University under the new rules.

SIR HENRY HARRISON has had a short trip to the Sand heads which has done him much good. He is fast being brought round.

WE are glad t[redacted] to hear [redacted]erjee, [redacted] has had a slight relapse, is now convalescent. He starts for Madhupur for a change shortly and may soon be expected to resume his career of usefulness, both public and professional. It has pleased God to visit him with severe grief during his illness which perhaps aggravated it. But his strength of mind is great and he has at last rallied. In the name of the public and on our own behalf we now venture to do what we could not do when he was so unwell, namely offer our sincere and heartfelt condolence at the premature removal of his dearly beloved and promising boy. It will be a great satisfaction to his countrymen to learn that Mr. Bonnerjee, though the foremost of our England-returned friends, is sternly opposed to the Age of Consent Bill.

WE much regret to hear of the death of Maharaja Raj Krishna Sinha of Susung, in Mymensing. He was a highly estimable noble man of simple manners and unostentatious in his habits, and was a rigid Hindu. He was formerly the owner of the Garro Hills, and had a large income. But the property was taken away from him under Act XXII. of 1869 which reduced his opulence. In 1877, Lord Ripon allowed him compensation to the extent of Rs. 1,50,000 for the loss of the Hills, and also conferred on him the title of Maharajah, as a hereditary one. He will be succeeded in the title by his eldest son, who, we learn with pleasure, is a graduate of the Calcutta University. The Maharaja was loved and respected by all who knew him and was only 58 years of age. To the new Maharaja, who is a promising and talented young man, we offer our sincere condolence and hope that he will tread in the footsteps of his noble father.

OUR readers will be glad to learn that on a representation by the inhabitants of Basudebpore, Maharaja Bahadur Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore and Raja Sir Sourenda Mohun Tagore, who own considerable landed property in the neighbourhood, have generously undertaken to construct a *pucca* road from that village to the main road leading to the Samnugger station.

THE reception of the Cesarewitch at Lahore on Wednesday is described to have been exceptionally brilliant. Sir James Lyall and the Civil and Military officers of the station received the Prince, while a new feature of the reception was the playing of the National Anthem by the band in attendance at the Railway Station. The Prince visited the golden temple at Amritsar the next day and the Police arrangements were specially careful. The Prince is expected to be in Calcutta towards the end of the current month when he will be present at an extra race. The Russian warships have received instructions to proceed to Colombo from Bombay about the 28th of January, and there await the Cesarewitch, who is due to arrive at Colombo on the 11th of February. From Ceylon His Imperial Highness proceeds to Singapur, where he will meet the Grand Duke Alexander Michæl, who has left Colombo in his yacht.

THE *Pioneer* and the *Bombay Gazette* publish correspondence between two firms of Calcutta Solicitors from which it appears that Mr. Henvey, late Agent to the Government of India in Central India, was not responsible for the alleged circulars in Native States forbidding the chiefs and their servants to subscribe to the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, ordering the expulsion of agents of the Congress from their territories, discouraging the employment of Bengalis &c. &c. Sir Lepel Griffin was pointed to next as the author or inspirer of the Circulars. But it is now stated on Mr. Henvey's behalf that the circulars were not genuine at all. We doubted as much at the time and could not imagine that Government servants even of Sir Lepel's style could [redacted] so low. The *Amrita Bazar Pat*[redacted] ted that the circulars had [redacted] well known [redacted] pondence that will throw light on it. [redacted] ing the above correspondence the [redacted] adds:—

"Mr. Henvey on the eve of retiring from the service and leaving India for ever, did not care to trouble himself with taking legal proceedings, as the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* had published an apology. There can, however, be no excuse offered for the editor of the *Patrika* accepted the Fakir's communication as trustworthy or sent in good faith for the man's antecedents had been made known all over India months before. Thus the *Hindoo Patriot* of the 19th May, 1890 had published the fact that he had been convicted and sent "to jail for thres months under sections 465, 468, and 471 of the Indian Penal Code," and the Madras *Hindu* on the 26th August denounced him as an impostor. Later on the *Indian Union* of the 13th November wrote of him that he "has no connection, and never had any, with the Indian National Congress. An inhabitant of Rayna, in Burdwan district, he made himself notorious in connection with various bogus concerns, and had been imprisoned for cheating and fraudulently obtaining money under cover of an assumed name from her Highness Maharanee Surnomoye of Cassimbazar."

IN a General Order of the Government of India in the Foreign Department, dated the 15th March, 1847, it was laid down that a Government Officer is at liberty, if his public conduct in the transaction of his official duties is impunged, "to seek redress through the usual official channel by an appeal to the Government he serves, and that the Government so appealed to will afford him every opportunity of vindicating his character." Though tbe matter has since been dealt with in a confidential paper, no subsequent orders regulating the course to be followed by Government Officers for the vindication of their acts as public functionaries have been generally circulated. The Gover-

nor-General in Council has, therefore, prescribed the procedure, which is to be generally observed in future :—

It is a standing order that, without obtaining the authorization of the Government to which he is immediately subordinate, no officer of Government is permitted to have recourse to the Courts for the vindication of his public acts, or of his character as a public functionary, from defamatory attacks. In giving authority to institute proceedings, the Local Government concerned will decide whether the circumstances of the case are such that the Government should bear the costs of the proceedings, civil or criminal, or leave the Officer to institute the prosecution or suit at his own expense ; and in the latter case it will also determine, in the event of the matter being decided by the Courts in the officer's favour whether he should be reccuped by Government the whole or any part of the costs of the action. The ruling above laid down does not affect an Officer's right to defend his private dealings or behaviour in any way that he may be advised ; but his official reputation is in the charge of the Government which he serves,and it is for that Governmnt to decide in case whether the institution of proceedings to vindicate his public acts or character is necessary or expedient.

THE Combuliatolla Reading Library had a successful meeting on Wedneday last at theNatmandir of Sir Raja Radhakanta Deb. There was a large gathering to listen to Mr. and Mrs. Schawnn who delivered a short and interesting address on technical education. Mr. Schwann said :—

He did not mean to disparage the claims of literature or classical learning on the students of India, but the attention of the rising generation should be directed to practical, scientific, and industrial subjects by those who wished them well ; science and art, applied to inventions and productions, paid no regard to distinctions of nationality. Any one coming to India could not but be struck with its artistic taste in the wonderful works of skill, the beautiful designs, mosaic carvings, &c., and he would recommend his hearers to give their attention to promoting technical education, and strongly advised them to take up the study of scientific and artistic pursuits, and urged them to follow the example of Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, Sir Dinshaw Petit, Mr. Peabody, and others who had done much to forward the progress of technical education.

The Honble Justice Gurudas Banerjee was in the chair.

THE occupation of the Police Commission so far as taking the evidence of experts is concerned, seems to be gone [illegible] an unaccountable [illegible] ing that it is no [illegible] one's time in making suggestions that are never to be carried out. After four repeated adjournments when witnesses did not appear the Commission decided to take no more evidence but to make its report to Government on the available materials. The Commission has evidently mistaken its vocation, for it is no use examining the Ditchers about the working of the Mafassil Police about which they cannot be expected to know much. The Commission shuld visit important centres in the mafassil and obtain reliable evidence. Some experienced Police officers ought to have been summoned to give evidence.

THE undermentioned gentlemen have been appointed to conduct the examinations in Arts for 1891 :—

B. A. EXAMINATION.

English.—Messrs. J. Mann, M. A.; H. M. Percival, M.A.; W. T. Webb, M.A.

Philosophy.—Dr. D. Duncan, M.A.; Babu Kali-Charan Banerjee, M.A.; Mr. C. R. Wilson, M.A.

Greek.—Mr. C. H. Tawney, M.A.; C.I.E.

Latin.—Rev. A. Neut; Mr. H. Stephen, M. A.

Sanskrit.—Babus Haraprasad Sastri, M.A.; Rajendra Chandra Sastri, M.A.

Arabic and Persian.—Col. H. S. Jarrett.

History.—Mr. Ormond, M.A.

Mathematics.—Baboo Ashutosh Mookerjee, M.A., F R A S., F.R.S.E.; Mr. G. W. Kuchler, M.A.

Physics.—Mr. J. Eliot M.A.

Chemistry.—Dr. C. J. Warden.

F. A. EXAMINATION.

English.—Revs. J. Hector, M.A.; J. Morrison, M.A.: Messrs. A. Venis, M.A.; H. A. Bamford; Baboos Ashutosh Mookerjee (Sr.), M.A.; Nilkanta Majumdar, M.A.

Mathematics.—Messrs. J. H. Gilliland, M.A.; C. Little, M.A.; W. E. Shore, M.A.; Baboos Gauri Sanker De, M.A.; Bepin Behary Gupta, M.A.; Mahendranath Ray, M.A.

Sanskrit.—Baboos Kailas Chundra Datta, M.A.; Bireswar Chatterjee, M.A.; Haridas Sastri, M.A.: Kaliprasanna Bhattacharyya, M.A.; Bidhu Bhusan Goswami, M.A.; Janaki Nath Bhattacharyya, M.A.

Bengali.—Baboo Haraprasad Sastri, M.A.

Greek.—Mr. C. H. Tawney, M.A., C.I.E.

Latin.—Rev. A. Neut; Mr. H. Stephen, M,A.

French.—Rev. F. Campigneulles.

Arabic and Persian.—Col. H. S. Jarrett.

Physics.—Rev. E. Lafont; Messrs A. Macdonell, M.A.; P. Bruhl; W. H. Wood, B.A.

Chemistry.—Mr. A. Pedler; Dr. Prafulla Chandra Ray.

History.—Rev. J. P. Ashton, M.A; Mr. N. N. Ghosh; Baboo Kali Sunkur Sukul, M.A.

Logic.—Baboo Sasi Bhusan Datta, M.A.; Mr. H. James, M.A.; Baboo Brajendra Nath Seal, M.A.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

English.—Rev. A. P. Begg, M.A., *Head Examiner*; Messrs. W. Young; W. Billing, B. A,, Revs, J. Edwards. M.A.; W A Telfer, M.A.; A. Tomory, M.A.; Messrs. R. Carte, B.B.; G. Lorimer M.A.; G. S. Gasper; O. Lloyd B.A.; E. M. Wheeler, M.A.; J. N. Dasgupta B.A.; Abdur Rahim, M.A.; Baboos Upendra Nath Maitra, M.A.; Heramba Chandra Maitra M.A.; Debendra Nath Bose, M.A.; Jagadis Chandra Sen, M.A.

Mathematics.—Mr. W. Booth, M.A.; *Head Examiner*; Baboos Abinas Chandra Bose, M.A.; Upendra Lal Majumdar, M.A.; Surya Kumar Karforma, M,A., Rajani Prasad Niyogi, M.A.; Joyti Prasad Chatterjee, M.A.; Bandyanath Bose M.A.; Kalipada Bose M.A.; Raj Mohan Sen, M.A.; Narendra Lal De. M.A.; Ganes Chandra Das M.A.; Kshetra Mohan Banerjee; M.A.; Kali Prossana Chatteraji M.A.; Messrs. R. W, Shaw, M.A.; H. Lane, M.A.

History and Geography.—Mr. M. Prothero, M.A.; *Head Examiner*; Baboos Khudiram Bose, B.A., Ambika Charan Mittra, M.A.; Kunja Behary Bose, M.A.; Sib Chandra Guin. M.A.; Matilal Chatterjee, M.A.; Adhar Chandra Mookerjee, M.A.; Giris Chandra Nag, M. A.; Syama Prasanna Majumdar, M.A.; Gobind Chandra Das, M.A.; Hemendra Nath Mitra M.A.; Ramendra Sundar Trivedi, M.A.; Giris Chandra Bose, M.A., Kumudinini Kant Banerjee, M.A.; Jnan Chandra Ghose M.A.; Hridoy Chandra Banerjee, M.A.; Joges Chandra Ray, M.A.

Sanskrit and Bengali.—Baboos Nilmani Mookerjee, M.A.; *Head Examiner*; Nrisinha Chandra Mookerjee M.A.; Uma Charan Banerjee, MA.; Kailas Chandra Bhattcharyya M.A.; Kunjalal Nag, M.A.; Sarat Chandra Gupta, M.A.; Matilal Bhattacharyya, M.A.; Debendra Nath Chakrabarti, M.A.; Narayan Chandra Bhattacharyya, M A.; [illegible]uleswar Banerjee. Ram Kumar Chakra[illegible]Kant Vidyaratna, Hari-

[illegible]

Hindi—Ba[illegible]

Uriya.—Baboo Chaturbhuj Patnaik.

Persian.—Moulvi Ahmad

Urdu.—Moulvi Syed Shamsul Huda, M.A.; Merajuddin Ahmad.

Greek.—Mr. C. H. Tawney M.A.; C. I. E.

Latin—Rev. A. Neut; Mr. H. Stephen, M. A.

French.—Rev. F Campigneulles.

Arabic—Col. H. S. Jarrett.

Drawing.—Mr. W. H. Jobbins.

IT is stated that there has been a big embezzlement in the office of Messrs Jardine Skinner and Company. The cash is short of Rs. 180,000 and there will, of course, be a criminal prosecution.

THE *Namasudras* of Bengal very properly objected to be termed *chandals* in the Census returns as ordered by Government. *Chandal* means a villian, and there is no reason why the epithet should be gratuitously fathered upon them when they feel strongly about it. Those concerned memorialised Government, and their prayer has been granted. In trifling matters like this at least where there is no "political pressure" from 'home' the wishes of the people will be respected.

THE Chakdigi Will case, which has been before our Courts of law in some shape or other for the last two decades or so, has in its most recent phase been taken up by the District Judge of Hugly for hearing. The Advocate General represents Babu Chakhunlal Roy, the plaintiff, while Messrs Woodroffe and Evans appear for the defendant, Babu Lalit Mohun Roy, who as the adopted son of Babu Sarada Prasad Roy is in the possession of his property. To suit Counsel's convenience the case is being taken up on Saturdays, and some time may therefore elapse before it is finally decided, finally that is to say so far as the District Court is concerned. Between the High Court and the Privy Council a much longer time may fairly be expected to be taken up. Is there no good Samaritan to intervene and quench these family quarrels, for litigation has been and will be the ruin of many a wealthy and respectable household of Bengal till there will be few indeed to boast of anything like standing and solidarity. The Burdwan case, the Tagore case, the Paikpara case the Narajole Khans case and the Gobordanga Mukerjees case and the Entally Dey's case have been all settled either by arbitration or otherwise, partly by wholesome official pressure and partly by the good sense of the attorneys and counsel engaged in the cause. Will not some one with leisure step in and stem the tide of useless and expensive litigation in regard to the Chakdigi Estate? Our nobility and gentry are losing wealth and status by protracted law suits and nothing will bring them to their senses as it seems.

THOSE accustomed to loudly denounce moral obliquity on part of Orientals, should notice with a sense of shame and degradation that the Uncrowned King of Ireland stood a fair chance of retaining his "crown." The results of the Parnell-O'Brien conference on the neutral ground of France though seemingly kept back from the public for a while was treated as an open secret from the beginning and was known to be favourable to retention of the leadership of Irish Home Rulers by the co-respondent in the O'shea Divorce suit. All honor, however, to the Emerald Isle if the community does not accept this dictate of a coterie. Mr. Dillon from his American fortress telegraphed to Mr. O'Brien to postpone the deliberation till he was on the spot, which was to some purpose. Mr. Dillon had to cross the 'pond' to see if the cants of the moralists could not yet be upheld. By his parting manifesto he informed his American supporters that the reunion of the party was the only hope of saving Home Rule for Ireland. In a letter to Mr. Furness, the Liberal candidate for Hartlepool, Mr. Gladstone reaffirms the Irish registration."

MOST intense frost again prevails throughout G[illegible] Britain and the Continent, where railways [illegible]ed with snow and many towns are [illegible]ly being scarce. The are block[illegible]cked with ice, isolated, food conseq[illegible]ther river Thames is completely [illegible] and traffic is entirely suspended. [illegible] in England continues most severe, and large flaes of ice are accumulated at the mouth of the river Medway.

WE do not belong to the class of psuedo-philanthrophists who pretend to (but as a matter of fact do not) support the Income Tax in preference to indirect and comparatively less burdensome imposts, for the purpose of making the "poor man's salt" four-fifths of a pice cheaper than it happens to be with the slightly enhanced duty. Yet are we unable to support the Darjeeling Terai and Dooars Planters' recent appeal against the Income Tax, that is to say in its entirety. The planters urge that in addition to many extra new disadvantages that the Tea-Industry labours under—which are not enumerated by the way—the Industry is threatened with greater wrongs by the discontent caused among European and native employes owing to the Income tax. The native employes need not have thus been made scape-goats for ninety-nine per cent. of them get wages considerably under the taxable income. The demand that managers and assistants should be treated as agriculturists because, forsooth the capitalist and the owner is, does not stand to reason, for when the Income Tax Act exempts the latter as agriculturist from operation it takes into consideration the important fact that like all whose "income is derived from land used for agricultural purposes" they in other directions bear a fair share of the State burdens. Not so the "managers and the assistants" although they, in the terms of the plan-

ters' memorial, together "with the land, are the chief factors in the production of that wealth upon which Government depends for its support." This mistaken analogy cannot warrant wholesale exemption of salaries of managers and assistants though their commissions and shares in profits stand on a different footing when they do not form a complement of the salaries. The memorial, however, becomes quite worthy of public support when it takes a more catholic view of the situation which it thus does in its concluding paragraph:

Your memorialists also respectfully submit that apart from these special reasons more nearly affecting managers and assistants upon tea-gardens, the tax is an unnecessary one, and one that is unsuitable for this country. It is not acceptable to the subject of the Empire, whether European or Native, inasmuch as it is an inquisitorial tax and a direct tax; it is a tax which many attempt to evade, and one which consequently entails an expenditure over assessing and collecting agencies utterly disproportioned to the revenue it creates. Moreover, though the more equitable distribution of taxation was the main object with which it was imposed, it is doubtful whether the Act would have been passed at all for entry into the Statute-book had not the finances of the country—shaken by the fall in exchange and other causes—specially called for some such measure: a call which, with a surplus of 2½ crores and with exchange at a higher rate than has existed for years before the tax was imposed, may be said to have been sufficiently answered.

WE owe Maharaj Kumar Binayakrishna of Sobhabazar an apology for not noticing earlier an excellent work of his entitled "Pancha Pushpa" on account of the recent unusual pressure upon our columns. As the name implies it is a series of five thoughtful and interesting essays, the subject matters of which are (1) study of history; (2) *Vaishnava* religion, (3) human society; (4) the capacity of women for intellectual culture; and (5) future hopes of our country. The subjects are all intelligently handled and the book shows research and careful study while the language is chaste and elegant to a degree. It is quite refreshing to observe scions of our noble families taking kindly to literary and historical studies specially when our book-wrights for the most part, like their fellows all over the world, take to the occupation as a bread-winning instrument. Maharaj Kumar Binaya Krishna like his elder brother Maharaj Kumar Nil Krishna takes a deep interest in all public questions and the brothers are two of the most useful members of Calcutta society. They are interesting themselves very actively in the Age of Consent Bill, of course from the Hindu point of view, and we are [illegible] see their usefulness not [illegible] social and political [illegible] glad to the handmaid [illegible] to matters [illegible]. Literature should be [illegible] wealth and birth, and we are sincerely glad to see indications of improvement upon the prevailing state of affairs in this concern.

BOTH Sir Andrew Scoble and His Excellency the Viceroy gratuitously took it for granted that the Age of Consent Bill will in no way interefere with the religion and customs of Hindus and that *Garbhadhana Sanskar* has no sanction of the Sastras. We have discussed this aspect of the question at length elsewhere and need not advert to it more in detail here. The only authority upon whom Sir Andrew chose to rely, namely Pandit Sasadhar Tarkachuramani, has completely failed him. The Pandits of Bengal, we leave our friend Mr. Nalkar to answer for the other parts of the country, are unanimous that there will be a grave interference with religion. With a promptitude that does him credit and honor Raja Sasisekhareswar Roy, who was unanimously elected as President of the *Bharat dharma Mahamandal* that had its sittings recently at Delhi, is taking the opinion of our learned men in this matter. The *Bhas*, as it is popularly known, has already been signed by distinguished Pandits like Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit Mahesh Chunder Nyaratna, (Principal Sanskrit College), Mahomahopadhya Chandra Kant Tarkalankar, (professor, Sanskrit College) and Pandit Madhu Sudan Smritiratna (professor Sanskrit College.) Here is a translation of their opinion:—

First Question :—Is cohabitation essential to the *sanskara* known as *garbhadhana*? *Second question*:—Is the *garbhadhana sanskara* enjoined even when the first *occurrence* of a certain event takes place before the age of twelve? Is its omission then sinful?

Answer to the first question :—Yes, cohabitation is essential to the *garbhaddana sanskara*; hence it is indispensable and cannot be done away with. *Answer to the second question* :—Yes, the *garbhadana sanskara* is enjoined even when the first occurence of a certain event takes place before the age of twelve. Its omission then is sinful.

(Sd.) Mahesh Chunder Dev Sarman.
Madhusudun Sarman.
Chandra Kant Sarman.

It is being largely signed by other Pandits, and will in due time be submitted to Government who will be sorry to see how grievously they have been misled by hasty reformers.

SIR ANDREW SCOBLE relied principally on Pandit Sasadhar Tarkacharumani in support of the special view of Hindu law and custom upon which the Bill is based. Pandit Sasadhur has, however, rudely dispelled Sir Andrew's delusions and expressly stated in his letter to us published in our last issue, as well as in other letters in a similar strain addressed to the morning papers. The reform-loving Mr. Nulkar of the Raghunath Rao school will surely not be looked to by Government as the great exponent of intricate points of law and usage involved in the issue. While there is time for it yet earnest efforts should be made to ascertain what the really orthodox view of the case happens to be. Pressure from the Secretary of State for very explicable political reasons will alone not justify such terrible interference with religion in express violation of the Proclamation of 1858.

BESIDES Pandit Sasadhar Tarkachuramani, Sir Andrew Scoble chose to rely upon two Hindu authorities of a medical character who do not support his case at all. Grave doubts are entertained as to whether Susruta may be regarded as a Hindu authority or whether, more correctly speaking, he was not a Buddhist. He at all events referred to times that have no more analogy to the present times than the pre-historic *Vaidik* times of which we have recently heard so much in this connection. And Susruta would be no authority in Bengal speaking as he did of the cold mountainous countries at and about the foot of the Himalayas of which he was a native, nearly three hundred years before the advent of Christ. As re[illegible] European medical authorities such as [illegible] whom [illegible] less reliable character. The 127 Hindu females to whom Dr. Webb's statistics relate could not possibly belong to the respectable classes, for as our contemporary of the *Dainik* forcibly points out, it is not at all likely that puberty of unmarried Hindu girls, if such a disastrous accident happened, would be disclosed even to nearest friends and relatives, for according to the *Sastras* it would ensure perdition for fourteen generations. No reliable information can be obtained even in one's own household as to the age of females in general, far less of the period of pre-nuptial puberty, as the successive Census commissioners in this country will freely testify. Much less could Dr. Webb or any Doctor, for the matter of that, obtain accurate information upon which the statistics referred to are based. Dr. Ogilvie and others of his school tell a different tale altogether to which it is unnecessary to advert at length. The physical fact stands unchallenged that many a girl acheive maternity before twelve and they and their children and their grand-children live and flourish in spite of statistics and legislation.

REGARDING our assertion that *Parasara* is the recognised legislator for the Kali age, the *Indian Mirror* states—"if we are not mistaken, it was Pandit Ishwar Chunder Vidyasagar who quoted unchallenged *Parasara's* opinion in support of his movement for the re-marriage of Hindu widows. If *Parasara* be 'the recognised legislator of the Kali-age' in one case, he must surely be the same in all other cases of Hindu sociology. Will our contemporary be prepared to admit this?" Our contemporary seems to have a very hazy idea about the binding authority of the codes of Hindu medieval law. We are prepared to admit every proposition which is sanctioned by Hindu law and custom and no other and if Parasara's authority is not overruled by precepts and ordinances of greater binding force, every true Hindu is bound to follow the rules laid down by the Legislator of the Kali age. Before chafing at "the organ of uncompromising opposition to Hindu social reforms" anti-Hindu organs should take the trouble of referring to the text of the law before they hazard an opinion.

THAT so much of the public opinion as is affected by the measure is thoroughly roused by it has made itself felt beyond questioning. The British Indian Association has had a preliminary meeting already and there will be a public meeting shortly to protest against the innovation, the necessity of and justification for which have in no sense been made out. His Highness the Maharaja of Durbhanga, the premier noble of Behar, condemns the Bill in common with all Hindus and has strong sympathy with the opposition movement, as indeed all the nobles of Bengal and Behar have. The British Indian Association has in the meantime asked the Government to defer referring the Bill to a Select Committee for at least six weeks. Sobhabazar Rajas, Hatkhola Dutts and other leading families of Calcutta have had preliminary meetings also in this connection and they will heartily join in the protest. But it is in the mafassil that the reform will be received with the greatest dismay although it may take twenty years for people to know the change in the law in the remote corners of distant districts where civilization has not yet carried enlightenment to its fullest degree. The *Indian Mirror*, which as a Bramho organ is bound to support the measure and quotes Vedas and Manu without knowing what he is about, has the frankness to publish in its columns proceedings of indignant public meetings of protest at Jessore, Mymensing, Murshedabad and other places. Meetings will succeed meetings as the sphere of the amendment is realised, and although the press as a body may be in the reformers' hands in the ordinary course of things, Government will have little difficulty in realising the gravity of the situation and will then perhaps pause and think before it finally decides upon tearing the Queen's Proclamation into shreds, which, we are told, Gov[illegible] honors just as well as we honor our Sastr[illegible]

There are said to be [illegible] that Sir. Charles Elliott, who has a very proper regard for public opinion is opposed to the Bill. If so, the Bill will be settled in no time, particularly when the Supreme Government sees unequivocal signs of its unpopularity about which it had previously been misled.

THE "Dead letter argument is treated with contempt because of the so-called educative value of the proposed amendment. It will act as a leaven, we are told; but very shortly it will prove leaven of a character that neither the Government nor the people will have bargained for. Should accidental injuries ever befall any unfortunate girl the amendment will have very effectively put her outside the pale of medical help, for inspite of its so-called educative feature no husband or parent will court a sure criminal prosecution, particularly if the girl is on the debateable border land between twelve and thirteen or say even fourteen. Is Medical Science with all its appliances so accurate as to be able to tell the tribunal in all cases with anything like accuracy whether the outraged girl's age is eleven years eleven months or twelve, and whether the girl has been outraged at all? And Government has not yet in hand any machinery for properly registering the births of all its female subjects that are to come hereafter, let alone those that have already presented themselves on the scene. Their age, in not a few instances, is counted from conception, but can never be accurately ascertained even from parents. Here is another question that naturally suggests itself in connection with this argument. Who is

to be the prosecutor in these cases? Surely not the ravisher himself even with the educative leaven. Nor the poor girl whose ruin for life is to be effectually achieved by the beneficent legislature. The parents of the girl or the husband's people, unless at loggerheads with him, will screen him to the best of their power and there will be no one to take the initiative but the kindly neighbour or kinsman whom some festive *Daladali* has perhaps justly infuriated. The *Englishman* gravely asks "why should malice and anonymous slander find expression in false accusations of this particular offence? Are there no other charges that would carry shame and horror behind the purdah? As a matter of fact, the Hindu family lives in a glass-house, but owing to the universal instinct of respect with which the *purdah* is regarded false charges of the kind are of rare occurence." Why indeed? Has our contemporary ever been to the Mafassil to answer that why, by closely examining the numerous false cases under the miscarriage section of the Indian Penal Code of which village *daladalies* are so fruitful a source? Yet the section is perfectly legitimate and necessary for the well-being of society, and its enforcement not half so baneful as the proposed amendment. If to ruin a poor widowed wretch without any prospect in life and in the world, afford so much pleasure and joy how much more joyous will it not be to ruin innocent virgins of tender years with a whole life of happiness and honor before them?

YOU want to stop the physical sufferings of those in w iose interest the measure is proposed. Do so by all means, if there be any sufferings. But where is its evidence except in the solitary case of Fulmani? "Sisters of Fulmani" there may be in plenty; but they never suffered as she did, poor thing, for whom we are sincerely sorry, or at any rate they never complained of suffering. And if delicacy and modesty prevented these complaints they will be still less in number when they would result in the lords of their lives being sent to jail, unless of course where the spirit of reform has invoked spite. In these latter cases violation of the law would hardly [illegible] a false case would be as handy [illegible] one. But that is not the [illegible] you,—let alone the lady [illegible]rance and interest,— [illegible] of these sufferings? [illegible] unknown in non- [illegible] it, though the [illegible] we take [illegible] sufferings in those communities are n[illegible] How do you account for that? Can [illegible] against annual child-bearing after fou[illegible] you legislate against the husband's pretended liberty of action as regards exercise of marital rights, except on stated days and hours as the orthodox Hindu enjoins? Can you by sumptuary laws put down tight-lacing? Can you stop idleness, the root of all disease? Can you, in short, achieve a hundred and one other feats without which the preservation of female health is an impossibility. Our own customs ensured these safe-gaurds, and civilization and enlightenment have undermined them. That answers for physical sufferings, if there be any, in *our* girls. There may be physical weakness in the inhabitants of Lower Bengal as there always has been and will probably be for all time to come. But so there is in our cattle, in our crops and in our fruits, in regard to whom at all events the age of consent cannot be arbitrarily raised by force of law. What explains, let us ask again, physical deterioration amongst Eurasians, East Indians, yea, Anglo-Indians? Surely our baneful examples cannot have contaminated them.

IF deterioration of the physique of the people be really a source of anxious solicitude to Government why are not economic measures taken that would improve it? We shall not refer to the Arms Act, the Vulunteer question, facilities for gentlemen to join the army and such other matters in this connection though they have a pertinent bearing. But daily recurring famines, disease, inundation and a host of other preventible causes are eating away the core as it were of national vitality. What steps does Government take to avoid these disasters that the social customs of the people should be recklessly interfered with in the name of national improvement? It takes not long to pass a Vernacular Press Act, an Income Tax Act or an Age of Consent Act for the matter of that. But the Damodar may do its work of destruction every year just as it likes, and peop'e may go without two full meals a day and the pettiest concession in the development of self-government may take years of deliberation, trial, reference, experiment and no end of red tape. For the sake of consistence, if for nothing else, should Government abandon the measure.

THE Bill, we are told, wants to stop immature prostitution. Let it do so by all means if it can and if it really cares to do. But we are seriously afraid that it does not. Society, orthodox or heterodox, would not have to say so much as half a word if the age limit in the case of any one but the husband were placed as high as the legislature could think of. But that would not suit our reformers and our administrators some of whom bitterly complain of adultery at all being a punishable crime in this country instead of being an actionable civil wrong as in civilized England. That is not Hindu instinct.

"A HINDU sub-judge" pertinently asks in the columns of the *Statesman*,—"why interfere with our domestic peace, while the safety of the British Empire does not demand it? We prefer our own customs and usages to your new-fangled ideas and all that we ask for is to be let alone." This sophistry, simple as it is, is unanswerable, and the legislature meets it with a pretence of urgency which can and does exist only in imagination. If there be only a thousand people and no more who prefer Raghunandana to another legislator they would have as good a right as an Englishman to claim the protection of any Victorian Statute, or the absurdest common law of England in preference to [illegible]ian, we suppose. It is absurd [illegible] about the basest [illegible]na, who [illegible] closely as possible, has [illegible] relied on by fifty millions of Hindus for nearly 300 years and it is a bit too late in the day to question his authority. Raghunandana may be a mischievous commentator with less authority than the Vedas and *Vaidik* Hindus are welcome to denounce him. But all Brahmins of Bengal are luckily not *vaidik* and if they choose to follow Raghunandana as their great-grand father and downwards have done before them and mean to do, the *Vaidik* people had better hold their peace. The Susruta may put down 16 as the age of consent, and as the *Dainik* points out the *Charak* may prescribe beef as diet in certain cases. But our *Vaidik* friends will pardon the Hindus if they hesitate to accept beef as diet even at the point of legislative bayonet. Why *should* the people object if the change was for their benefit and if their religion as they follow and accept it, whether rightly or otherwise, was in no way interfered with. Educated people do their best to keep their girls unmarried *as long* as they can, and the marriageable age is being steadily raised to the possible maximum. But as Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter pointed out with great force the cause of real reform will simply be retarded by this reactionary legislation, for the more backward people will then deem it their duty to stand and fall by their religion. But Sir Romesh Chunder is only an ex-Judge and he was the Chief Justice of Bengal for some time. Sir Andrew Scoble prefers an authority who supports his views.

THERE is one aspect of this question which the "Hindu sub-judge" of the *Statesman* along with the logical and forcible articles in the *Dainik* brings to public attention. Apart from the question of consummation, the unfortunate girl will be consigned to practical widowhood, for the period between the attainment of puberty and *garbhadhan sanskara* is regarded by every orthodox Hindu as one of uncleanliness when the damsel may not associate even with her female friends and relatives freely and may not take fish, or rich food or use oils for bathing purposes, or essences, or put on gay apparel. It is a period of rigid preparation in Bramhacharini fashion for the onerous duties of the real married life. The period of probation which must be strictly observed, may under the new law be lengthened for two years for the matter of that, a contingency which the reform-legislators have not bargained for.

IN this connection there is a crying want that we feel and which ought to be remedied if possible. The Daily papers published in English, are all in the hands of Christians and Bramhos who can have no sympathy with Hindus in this matter. So are most of the weekly papers. The *Dainik* is doing yeoman's service to the Hindu cause, but it is only pub- [illegible] Bengali, and, as sure as anything, the [illegible]anslations cannot be extended to [illegible] its views. If, there- [illegible] of its columns Government t[illegible] much that does not supp[illegible] fore, the *Dainik* could devote so[illegible] every day to articles and paragraphs [illegible] English the Government would have better chances of being in constant touch with real Hindu opinion, as solitary articles in weekly papers can only have a feeble effect. We earnestly commend this proposition to the energetic editor of the only Hindu Daily paper.

IF YOU HAVE FEVER or suffer pain from Sunstroke, Headache, Lumbago, Sciatica, Neuralgia Rheumatism, etc., don't fail to try Dictor Clin's (Laureat of the Paris Faculty of Medicine, Montyon Prize, etc. etc.,) Solution or Capsules of Antipyrine. Doctor Clin's Antipyrine Capsules and Solution are scientifically considered the most powerful and inoffensive medicaments combating pain.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS GREAT VALUE AS A NUTRIENT FOR WEAKLY CHILDREN.—In cases of languid and imperfect nutrition often observed in children, the surprising efficacy of Dr. de Jongh's Oil is thus described by Dr. Edward Crey: "It is in the disease incidental to childhood, that mainly depend on the mal-assimilation of the food in the pale cachectic child, when the anxious practitioner has exhausted the whole range of alteratives and tonics, that Dr. de Jongh's Cod Liver Oil will come in and satisfy his most sanguine expectations. Where the powers of life are low, it affords nourishment to the body when none other can be borne. It furnishes the frame with fat in a truly wonderful manner: and administered as it is in Holland, the delicate and puny child, who though not considered ill, is in that state of impaired health which would favour the development of disease, its extraordinary effects will soon be visible, after having taken it for a short period, in a return to health and strength which were before unknown, and which will be accomplished by no other remedy with which we are acquainted. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints pints and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keeprs. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co, 210 High Holborn, London.

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AN ARTIST OF EUROPEAN REPUTATION and that he is now prepared to turn out at his former moderate rates

Pictures of a Standard hitherto unattainable in India.

The Studio has been entirely renovated and re-decorated, and forms now one of the handsomest rooms in Calcutta.

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ALTHOUGH for obvious reasons demonstrations against this interference may not seemingly be very strong, the undercurrent of feeling excited by the measure will be stronger than the Government thinks, which is for the benefit of none concerned. The reform camp owns all those who are distinguished for agitation and demonstration tactics, and the Daily papers or, for the matter of that, the bulk of the Press is in the hands of the "progressionists." For aught we know to the contrary there may be counter-demonstrations for supporting the hands of Government in this behalf, which however must not be misconstrued as general public support. The millions do not speak nor write but meekly and resignedly suffer *any* wrongs that you may choose to heap upon their devoted heads. The inference should not and cannot be that they do not feel, for they feel very strongly indeed in religious matters that are so near and dear to their heart and when their susceptibilities are so rudely, so thoughtlessly and so unnecessarily wounded. Government may be anxious to forestall the uprorious demand created by Malabari and Co. in England or may think it very expedient to throw by way of sop a veritable apple of discord in the midst of those clamouring for political reform or may be interested in throwing plenty of dirt on the clamourers for political liberties in the hope that some of it may stick on and may stultify them in the eyes of the English public whose support and countenance they seek. Nothing could reduce the Congressionists for example to a minority of really microscopic dimensions than cessation of the orthodox classes with a stake in the country, and how better could that cessation be achieved than by effectual estrangement in matters admitting of no compromise. Our reformers sadly miss the point and in their thoughtless invocation of legislative aid in social matters materially and permanently injure the cause of the motherland which all should unite in serving. What they cannot achieve in Congress, they try outside it, and the result is deplorable as the veriest baby in the cradle needs not be told.

WE have been requested to announce that a meeting of the Savitri Sabha will be held, on Tuesday at 5 P.M., at the premises No. 102 Jaun Bazar Street, to discuss the provisions of the Bill for raising the age of consent. Raja Peary Mohun Mukerjee, C.S.I. will preside. We hope the meeting will be largely attended.

WE gladly make room for the [illegible] letter :—

Sir,—We shall be [illegible] following insert the follo[illegible] highly obliged if you kindly in[illegible] lines in a corner of your much es[illegible] paper.

An influential gathering of the Hindus of Ward No. 9 in the town of Calcutta assembled at the Albert Hall, at 4-30 P. M. on Saturday last, the 17th January 1891, to protest against the Bill to raise the age of Consent. The Hall was crowded to suffocation. The Meeting was presided over by Pandit Barmha Vrata Samadhaya Sarasvati. All assembled agreed to send a petition to the Government of India, showing the great error the Government has committed in saying that the proposed bill has no interference even in the slightest degree with the Hindu religious rites, custom and observance, as it directly interferes with all and every one of them. The Meeting also expressed its great sympathy with the British Indian Association and such other bodies, that are taking a keen and lively interest on this question from a Hindu point of view.

Yours Sincerely,
RAMTARAN CHATTERJEA.
& other Hindus of Ward No. 9

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Cambridge University Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle) was (Jan. 1890). "much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to Memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." „I derived great benefit from your lessons, though at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentations of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Physician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, etc., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal C. S. "Having seen the base attempt to rob you, I send, unsolicited, the statement that your system is of great advantage to strong memory, incalculable aid to weak one."—Rev. Dr. J. M Buckly. Excellent travelling companion.' —Capt. J. B. Haye R. N. Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Sader-ud-din Khan. "Invaluable."—J. J. Francis, Q. C. „Does not involve much labour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct. 1887. "Tremendously popular in Oxford."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th February, 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupil, Rs. 76; Ten pupils, Rs. 19 each. Apply to F. Fisk-Williams, 71, Elliot Road, Calcutta, or to A. LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford Street, London, England.

Correspondence.

THE BRITISH AGENCY OF THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS AND THE INDIAN POLITICAL AGENCY IN ENGLAND.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT."]

DEAR SIR,—Some confusion seems to exist as to the exact nature and position of two English Agencies, which are both, at the present moment, doing good work for India, and it seems desirable that this should be dispelled.

The first is the British Agency of the Indian National Congress, of which Mr. Digby is the Secretary. This has for its leading object to press on the attention of British public, and popularize, in Great Britain, the Congress demands for reform in the existing administration of India. It prints and circulates yearly ten thousand copies of the Congress Reports and circulates large numbers of pamphlets, leaflets and the like, advocating the views of the Congress. It receives and carefully looks to the welfare of the Indian delegates to England, and arranges and pays the expenses of meetings at which they may plead to the people of England the cause of the people of India.

This is a public and national Agency; its accounts, yearly printed, combined with those of the General Secretary's Office also printed, show every rupee collected and subscribed in India for its use, and the exact manner in which all sums, thus placed at its disposal, are expended. It is presided over by Mr. Caine Sir W. Wedderburn, Mr. Dadabhai Nowroji, Mr. J. Bright Maclaren, M. P., and Mr. J. Ellis, M. P. Nothing is spent without their sanction, all expenditure is checked and vouched for them, and the accounts are further audited by a professional Accountant.

This, therefore, is the public Congress Agency, towards the expenses of which all sincere supporters of the Congress are bound to contribute their quota, according to means, through the several Standing Congress Committees of their respective circles, or, in the case of subscriptions exceeding Rs. 100, if it is preferred, direct to the General Secretary's Office, which is in charge of the Hon'ble Pundit Ajodhia Nath at Allahabad.

No one has any authority to collect money for this Agency, except the several Standing Congress Committees, or the Joint-General Secretary, or persons armed with the written authority of one of the former, or of the latter.

The second is the Indian Political Agency, which is Mr. Digby's own private undertaking. This has for its chief object to press on the attention of Parliament all kinds of Indian grievances, private or public, which are not of a nature to be dealt with by the Congress, and which, in M[illegible]on, demand and deserve such [illegible] private [illegible] proper, unc[illegible] refuse to take up [illegible] can be little doubt that he exercises a wise discretion; but none the less the agency is Mr. Digby's, and not a public one; no accounts of receipts or disbursements have been published, and there is no independent check on expenditure. There are probably valid reasons for this, inasmuch as people, who want grievances brought forward, do not in many cases like it to be known that they are paying money to enable this to be done; but none the less does this mark the private and personal character of the Agency. There are several other, more or less similar, agencies in London, but none, I have reason to believe, conducted as ably or so sympathetically towards the people of India. Indians, whether Princes or peasants, who have individual grievances to bring forward of a nature properly cognizable by the House of Commons, cannot, I believe, do better than place their cases in Mr. Digby's hands, and (as the preparation of such cases demands time, labour and considerable expenses for printing) send, at the same time, such contribution to the Agency as they can afford. It is, I believe, certain that nowhere will their work be done better or at less cost.

But there is still another aspect of this matter. Mr. Digby, in his zeal for justice to the people of India not unfrequently takes up hard cases, such as that of Cashmere, without receiving any remuneration, and is thereby considerably out of pocket. It is quite right and proper that in view to reimbursing him for such chivalrous expenditure, private persons, having no direct interest in any of these special grievances, should yet contribute subscriptions so as to enable the Agency to continue and extend its good work. Only it must be clearly understood that these are spontaneous contributions to a private, though excellent, agency, which no one is *bound* to make whereas the Congress Agency is a public one, which every adherent of the Congress is *bound* to support; and no one must fancy that, in contributing voluntarily to the Political Agency, they in the smallest degree affect or diminish the demand which the Congress Agency righteously makes on all Congressmen.

A. O. HUME,
General Secretary,
Indian National Congress.
6, Park Street, Calcutta, 5th January 1891.

A ROMANCE OF NORTH DEVON.

From the *Bideford Gazette*.

"A prosaic world," "an unromantic age"—these and similar expressions are frequen ly heard to fall from the lips of many a mortal who goes lazily and comfortably through life, with eyes that see not, and ears that hear not. But to those whose faculties of observation are on the *qui vive*, this world and even this age—prosaic though they be in some respects—provide infinite variety and occasionally disclose what may be properly termed a romance. Such an experience befel the representative of this paper (and writer of this article) a few weeks ago. The occasion was the relating of a narrative, at once strange almost beyond belief and yet true beyond question.

But to tell the tale. About midway between historic Bideford and unique, picturesque Clovelly, the traveller passes through the little village of Horn's Cross. One of the residents is a young man named John Brownscombe Clements, a mason by trade, and known to all the country round. He was the speaker, and this is what he said:—

"Up to September, 1887, I had always been in good health. About that time, however, after working in some wat[illegible], I took a cold. This developed into inflammation of the right lung, and was accompanied with an attack of pleurisy. This laid me up for over a fortnight, but I got out again as soon as I could—too soon, in fact, for I caught another cold, and had a relapse. After that I gradually grew worse. I continued in bed for some time, [illegible] to treat me for consumption, [illegible] and other things; but I got [illegible] end of six months—durin[illegible] doctors had been atte[illegible] mined and I was foun[illegible] Disease. The Docto[illegible] medicin[illegible] could be of any avail. Bu[illegible] paper, the *Bideford Gazette*, about won[illegible] having been done by Warner's 'Safe' Cure. I was desperate, [illegible] which Hamlin *calls* 'ultimum,' between me and the grave, [illegible] to raise side issues ancient justinian, and she walked into Bideford and bought a bottle of Warner's 'SAFE' Cure. I commenced taking it, and felt rather worse, being in more pain for a little while. But I stuck to it, and before finishing the first bottle I was, to my great joy, considerably relieved. For three months I took Warner's 'SAFE' Cure regularly, and before the end of that period I was not only able to go out, but was actually able to resume my work again. I have taken in all twenty-seven bottles, and it is now eighteen months since I left off. I have been in good health and constant work all that time, and am to-day strong and well. I consider I owe my escape from death and restoration to health solely to Warner's 'SAFE' Cure."

There is no need to add anything to Mr. Clements story, beyond that it was told voluntarily, intelligently, simply, and with the utmost sincerity. Anyone whose curiosity or interest is aroused by the foregoing statements is perfectly at liberty to go to Mr. Clements or write to him, and he will tell them all, and probably more, than is recited here, for he is genuinely grateful for all that this medicine has done for him, and is evidently eager that others may be benefited by the same means. This great remedy can be had at the Bazaars and of all Chemists throughout the world, or of Ballantyne and Sons Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras.

Government Notification.

Calcutta Gazette.—*January* 14, 1890.

GENERAL.—Babu Kali Kumar Roy Chowdhuri, Sub-Deputy Colletor, Magura, Jessore, is transferred temporarily to Narail in that district.

Babu Rajendra Chunder Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Faridpur, is transferred to the Sadur stationed of the district of Khulna.

Babu Juggo Baudhu Khan, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Mymensingh, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Rye Charan Ghosh Officiating Personal Assistant to the Commissioner, Chutia Nagpore Division, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 1st proximo, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Babu Purna Chunder Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Lohardugga, is appointed to act as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner, Chutia Nagpur Division, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Rye Charan Ghosh, or until further orders.

Babu Ganendra Chandra Mukerjee is appointed to act until further orders, as a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, in the district of Jalpaiguri, vice Babu Chunder Kant Gangooly, on leave.

LEGISLATIVE.—With the sanction of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General, the Lieutenant-Governor appoints Maharajah Sir Harendra Kishore Sing Bahadur, K. C. I. E., of Bettiah, in the district of Chumparrum, under the provisions of the 29th, 30th, and 45th sections of the sections, of the Indian Councils Act of 1861, to be a member of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations in the Bengal Division of the Presidency of Fort William, vice Rajah Rameswara Sing Bahadur, whose term of office expired on the 22nd ultimo.

POLICE.—Mr J Lambert, C I E, Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, was on leave for one day, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 4th September 1890.

[redacted]epur, is hereby authorized, to grant certificates of [redacted]tive Christians in the

[redacted]ed to be Registar [redacted]the Dinagepur

The services of the Reverend A S Dyer, Chaplain [redacted] jeeling, are placed at the disposal of the Governmen[redacted] North-Western Provinces and Oudh, with effect [redacted] 15th January 1891, or such subsequent date as he may be relieved of his duties at the station.

REGISTRATION.—Moulvi Syed Abdar Rub, Special Sub-Registrar of Mymensingh, allowed leave for six weeks, under article 369 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 30th October 1890.

Babu Mon Mohun Guha, Rural Sub-Registrar of Muksudpur, in the district of Farridpur, is appointed to act, until further orders, as Special Sub-Registror of Bogra with effect from, the date on which he joined his appointment.

JUDICIAL.—Babu Kali Prossonno Roy, Munsif of Purulia, in the district of Manbhum, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes of the trial of suits cognizable by such a Court up to the value of Rs. 50, within the local limits of the Purulia Munsifi.

GRANT OF LEAVE TO MUNSIFS.—Babu Bepin Behary Mukerjee Munsif of Chittagong, is allowed furlough for five months, under articles 264 and 371 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 21st September 1890.

Babu Gobinda Chandra De, Munsif of Dacca, is allowed leave for one month, under article 306(b) of the Civil Service Regulations, in extention of the leave granteed to him on the 14th October 1890.

Babu Kishori Mohan Sikder, substantive pro tempore Munsif of Iswargunge, in the district of Mymensingh, is allowed leave for two months, under acticle 372—1 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Babu Mohendro Nath Das, Munsif of South Raojan, on deputation to Chittagong, is allowed leave for two months, viz., 19 days under article 309 of the Civil Service Regulations, and the remaining period under article 306(b) of the same Regulations, with effect from the 21st December 1890, or from the date on which he is relieved, in superession of the leave granted to him on the 2nd December 1890.

AMUSEMENTS.

CORINTHIAN THEATRE.

MONDAY, JANUARY 19TH.

LAST PERFORMANCE BUT ONE

OF

MACBETH.

MR. GEO. C. MILN AS MACBETH.

MISS KATE DOUGLAS AS LADY MACBETH.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20TH,

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AND

H. H. the Maharaja Bahadoor Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore, K.C.S.I.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21ST.

ROB ROY.

ROB ROY.

ROB ROY.

FILLIS' GREAT CIRCUS.

TO-NIGHT, MONDAY, JANY, 19.

LAST NIGHT BUT ONE

OF

Dick Turpin's

RIDE TO YORK

AND THE DEATH OF

[redacted]

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Rs. 5 per Chair.

PRICES OF ADMISSION;

Boxes containing 4, 6 or 8 chairs, Rs. 4 per chair, Stalls Rs. 3; Second Class Rs. 2; Second Class Gallery Re. 1; Third class Gallery As. 8.

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A trial a tleast by those suffering from debility, loss of energy, loss of memory, general malaise, dyspepsia, dysentery, palpitation and tremour, burning micturition, anorexia and head affections.

For a week Rs. 2-8; packing As 2, and postage As. 4.

KHUSHTHARI YOYA.

A veritable panacea for all forms of lepra and the various cachectic habits due to overdose of mercurials. Cure guaranteed at the incipient stage when there are no ulcerations. For a week Rs. 2; packing As. 2. and postage As. 4.

SPECIFIC FOR DYSMENORRHŒA.

Insufferable pain and irregularity in menses cured by three doses—one a day during the menstrual period. We do not exaggerate when we say that this specific is altogether a new discovery.

Price Rs. 2-8; postage, As. 4; packing, As. 2.

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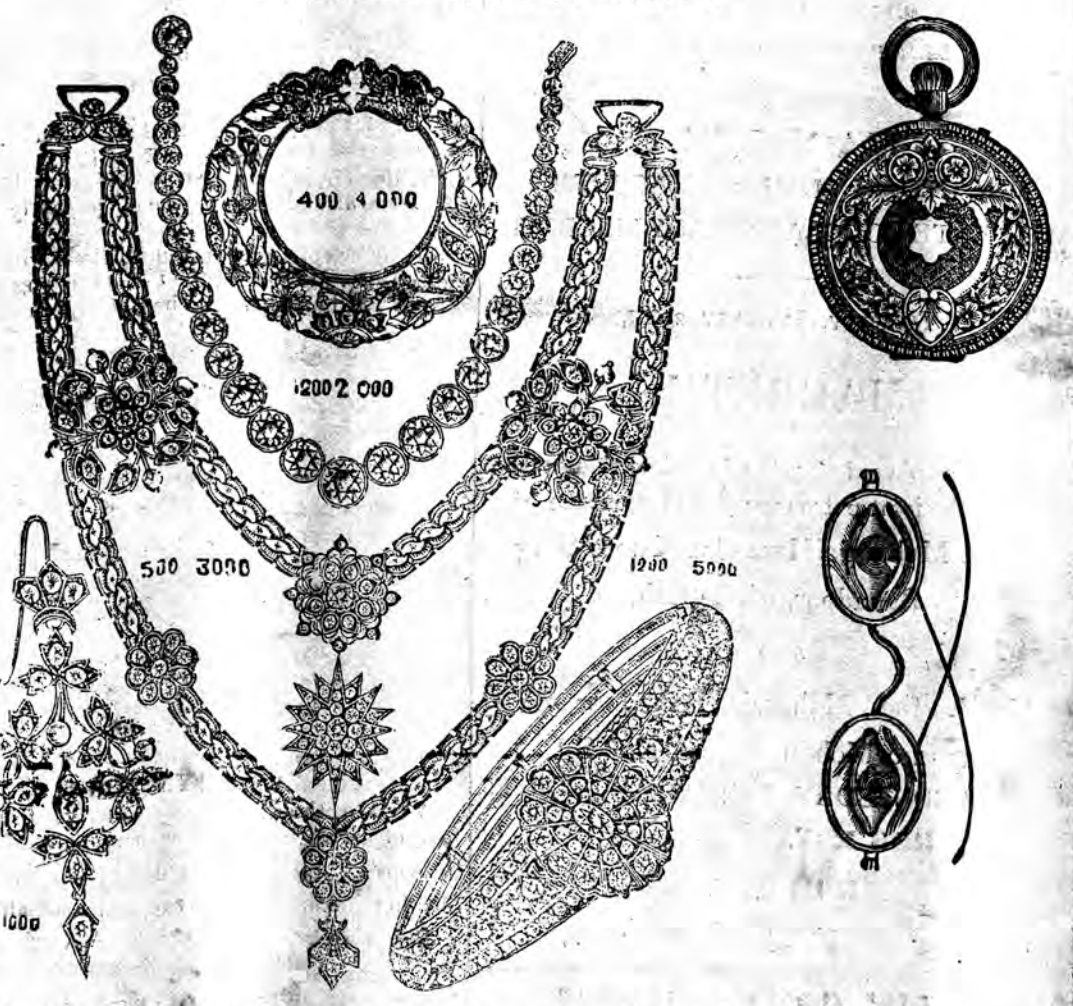

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